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URBAN DISTRICT OF HORSFORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Year ended 31st December, 1947.

J. E. OUTHWAITE, M.B., Ch.B., Barrister-at-Law,
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the year ended 31st December, 1947

HORSFORTH.

October, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Horsforth Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to place before you my Report on the health of your district for the year 1947.

The period under review has been one of transition, and like all periods of transition has lent itself to doubts, difficulties, misconceptions and misrepresentations. Slowly these are clearing away and the sharp outline of a new service can be discerned.

Upon the health of your district no comments are necessary, save such as will occur in the appropriate places in this report.

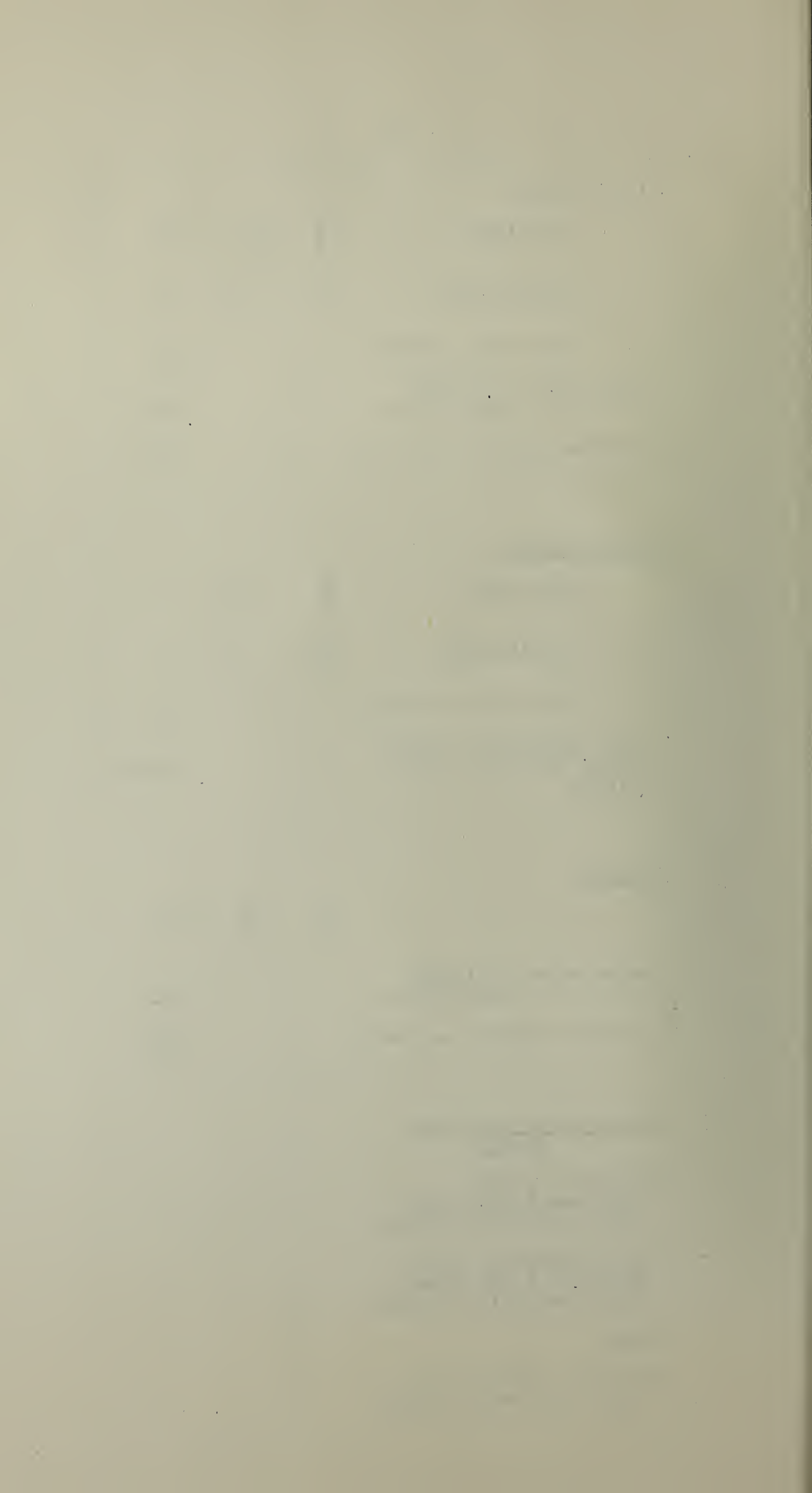
Employment throughout the area continues at a high level; the shortage is rather of employees than of work.

Housing which continues to be an urgent necessity and a difficult problem, is being slowly but surely dealt with.

STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	2,706
Number of inhabited houses estimated end of 1947	4,342
Rateable value	£80,418
Product of ld. rate	£319
Population - estimated mid 1947	13,820

<u>Live Births</u>			
Legitimate	M	107	231
	F	124	
Illegitimate	M	5	10
	F	5	
Total Live Births			241
Birth rate per 1,000 population			17.4
Rate for England and Wales			20.5
<u>Still Births</u>			
Legitimate	M	3	9
	F	6	
Illegitimate	M	1	2
	F	1	
Total Still Births			11
Still Births per 1,000 total (Live and Still) births			43.65
<u>Deaths</u>			
	M	84	163
	F	79	
Death rate per 1,000 population			11.8
Rate for England and Wales			12.0
<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes</u>			
Puerperal Sepsis			
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births			-
Other Puerperal Causes			
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births			-
Total			-
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births			-



Death rate of infants under one year of age:	
All infants per 1,000 live births	20.74
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	16.88
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	100
Rate for England and Wales	
All infants per 1,000 live births	41
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	31
" " Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
" " Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1

These tables invite the following comments.

- (1) The birth rate continues at a high level for your district and is still higher than it has been since 1915, although it falls below the level for England and Wales. This is due to the fact that here we have a residential district.
- (2) It has been usual for the death rate to be higher than the average for England and Wales due largely to the high proportion of older and retired persons. You will note that this year the death rate is below the National average and I feel that to some extent this is due to the return of young people from the Forces and the influx of younger workers who have helped to restore the average age of the district.
- (3) It will be noted that there were no deaths from puerperal causes.

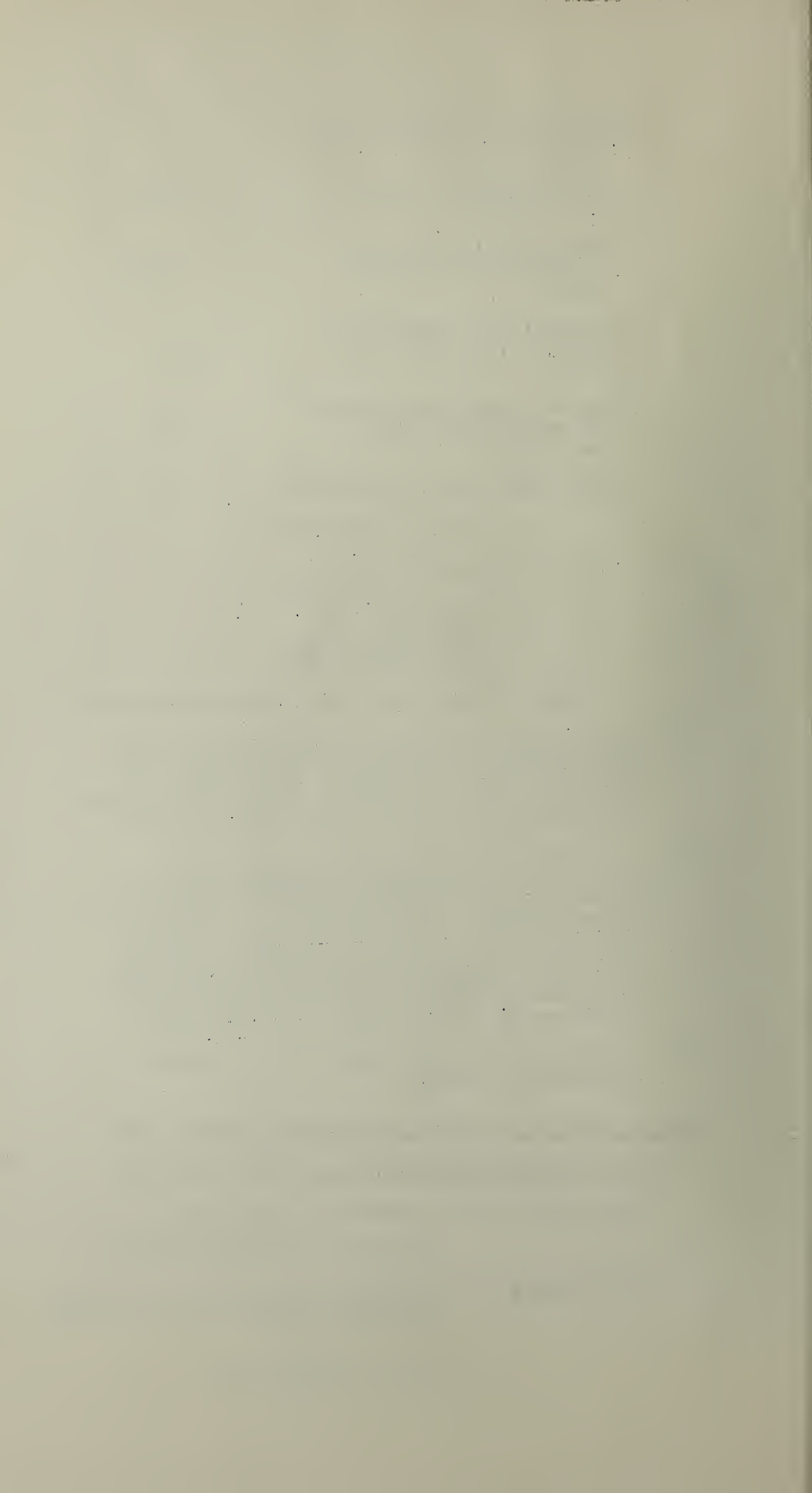
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

(Part-time) J. E. Outhwaite, M.B., Ch.B.,
Barrister-at-Law.
Medical Officer of Health.

(Whole-time) E. M. Birtwistle, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent.

J. Flitton, M.R.I.P.H.H.,
General Assistant.



4.

(Whole-time) G. Holmes, Pupil Sanitary Inspector,
now serving with H. M. Forces.

E. Morgan (Miss), Clerical Assistant,
(Resigned (January 1947))

L. Smith (Miss), Junior Clerical Assistant
(Resigned (October 1947))

D. M. Dudley (Miss), Clerical Assistant
(from October 1947)

2. Laboratory facilities

The examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens is undertaken by the West Riding County Council in their laboratory; these arrangements continue to be very helpful to your officers. Facilities exist in the Sanitary Inspector's office for carrying out routine colour reduction tests on milk.

3. Ambulance facilities

As you are aware, the County Council took over the Ambulance Service in this district in 1946 and have continued to provide this service since. The arrangement appears to be working satisfactorily.

4. Nursing in the Home

The District Nurses continued to serve us during 1947.

5. Treatment Centres and Clinics

These are provided in Horsforth by the West Riding County Council who administer the Tuberculosis, Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Services.

The arrangements whereby the Leeds City Council treat cases of scabies from this District at their treatment centre at St. James Hospital, Leeds, was continued, the facilities proving most satisfactory.

6. Hospitals

General cases are for the most part treated in the Leeds voluntary hospitals. Facilities are also available at the Otley County Hospital administered by the West Riding County Council and the amount and range of work undertaken by this hospital has increased.

Cases of infectious disease requiring Isolation Hospital accommodation are treated at the Wharfedale Union Joint Hospital Board's Isolation Hospital at Menston.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWater Supply

An excellent bacteriological standard has been maintained in the water supply through the Council's mains, even though on occasions unsatisfactory samples have been picked up from the gathering grounds. The filtration and chlorination apparatus is therefore adequate to deal with the position and no fear need be felt in this respect providing the position is watched.

Housing

During the year 1947, twelve new Council houses and forty-five private enterprise houses were occupied. This has given general satisfaction.

Mortuary

The position with regard to mortuary accommodation still continues deplorable and the Council agreed to negotiate with the Ministry of Health for the purchase of a portion of the wartime mortuary for conversion to peace time use. This should do much in the future to overcome present difficulties.

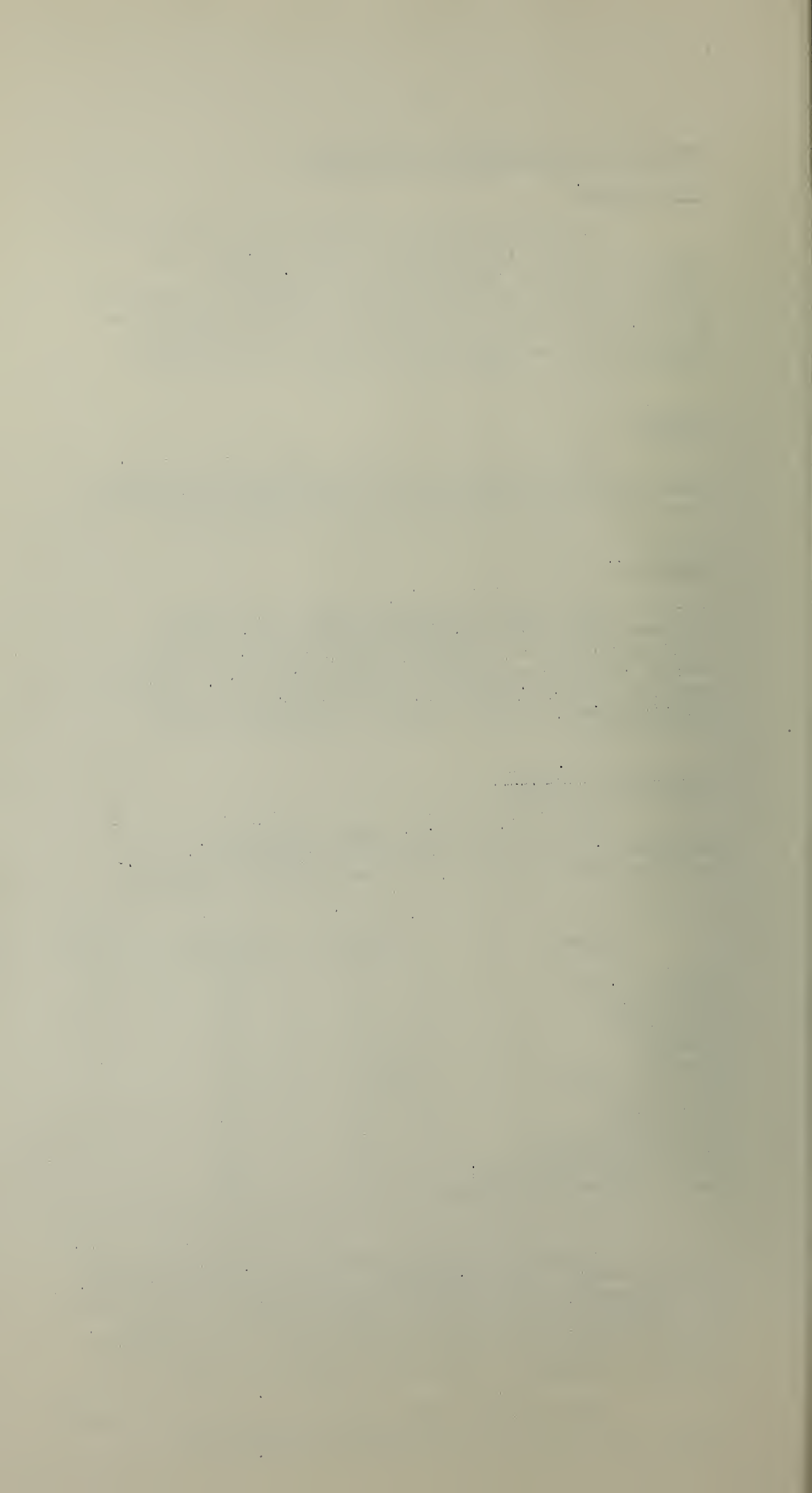
Infectious Disease

No additions were made during the year to the list of notifiable infectious diseases. Notifications received are summarised as follows:-

Disease	Notifi- cations	Treated in hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	19	13	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Pneumonia	17	2	14
Dysentery	1	-	-
Measles	171	1	-
Whooping Cough	54	-	-
Erysipelas	2	1	-
Meningitis	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
Acute Polio-myelitis	2	2	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis	1	1	-

I think attention should be drawn to the fact that the above table discloses, firstly, that no case of diphtheria was notified during the whole of the year, and secondly, that only two notifications of polio-myelitis and one of polio-encephalitis were received, notwithstanding the fact that there was a considerable national increase in these two latter diseases.

The position with regard to infectious disease within the area can be viewed with complacency.



DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The immunisation carried out during the last few years has dealt with most of the children apart from those whose parents resist any such scheme and new immunisations are mainly of children of pre-school age. Any child can be immunised free of cost at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, at the School Clinic or by a private doctor. Information is supplied at intervals to the Ministry of Health on the state of immunisation in the District and a copy of the annual return for the year is set out below.

I Immunisation in relation to child population

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1947.

Age	Under 5 yrs. at 31/12/47	5 to 14 yrs. at 31/12/47	Under 15 yrs.
Number immunised	521	1,454	1,975
Estimated Mid-year population, 1947	990	1,700	2,690

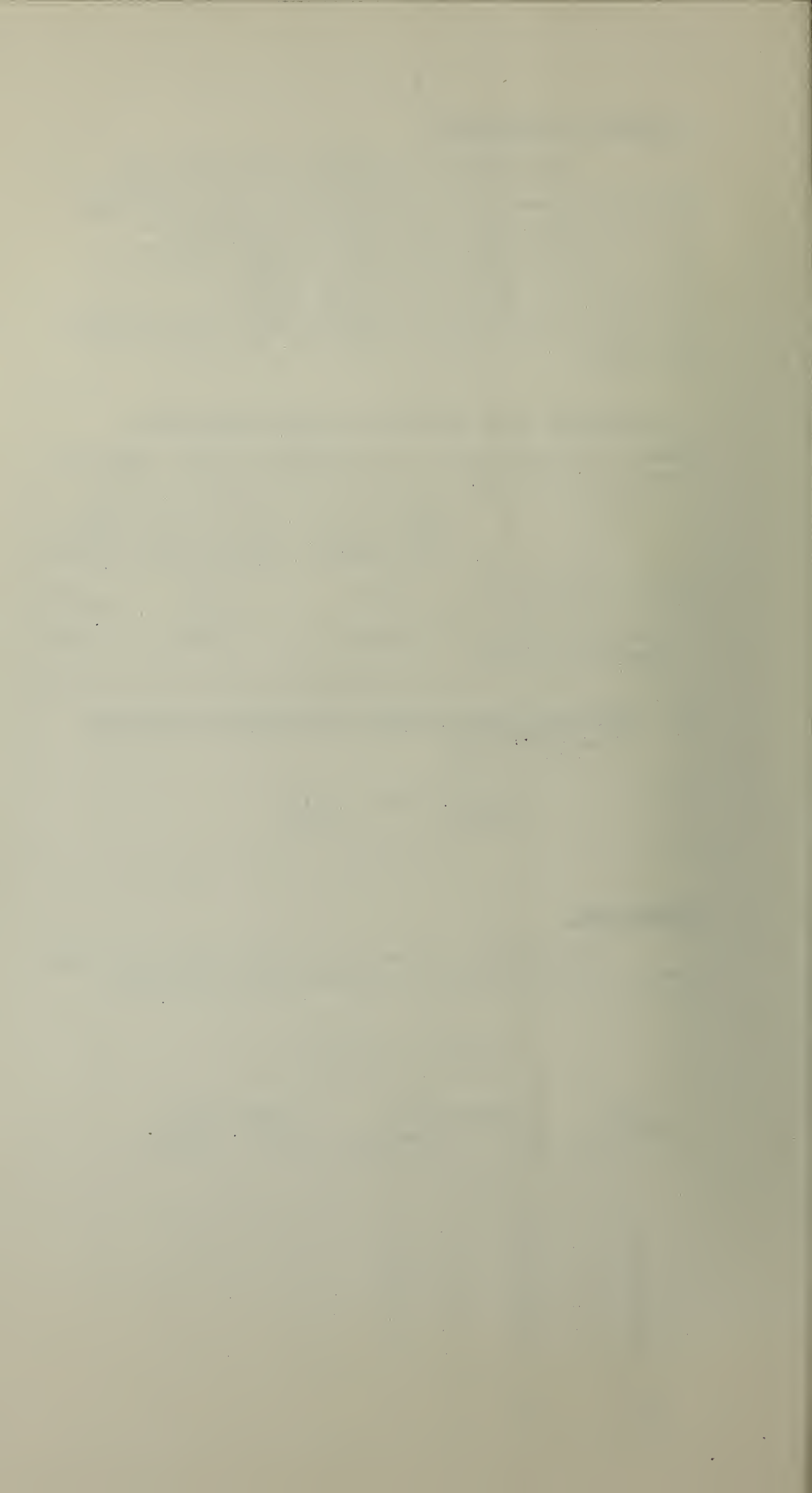
II Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation

Notifications - Nil
Deaths - Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of new cases and deaths from this disease during the year are summarised as follows:-

NEW CASES				
Age Periods	Respiratory		Other Forms	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0	-	-	-	1
1	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	1	-
15	3	2	-	-
25	2	3	-	-
35	-	2	-	-
45	4	-	-	-
55	1	1	-	-
65	1	-	-	-
Total new cases	11	8	1	1



D E A T H S				
Age Periods	Respiratory		Other Forms	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0	-	-	-	1
1	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	-	-
25	-	1	-	-
35	1	-	-	-
45	1	2	-	-
55	-	2	1	-
65	-	-	-	-
Total	3	5	1	1

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was 1 : 5.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion I would like to state that this is my first Annual Report as part-time Medical Officer of Health for this area. It would have been impossible to have done the work or to have presented this report without the loyal and continuous support of every member of your staff. It will be my last report, for on 1st April 1948, the new arrangements made in conjunction with the West Riding County Council for the services of a whole-time Medical Officer of Health, came into force. I am convinced that the loyalty and labours of your staff will be no less given to my successor than they have been given to me.

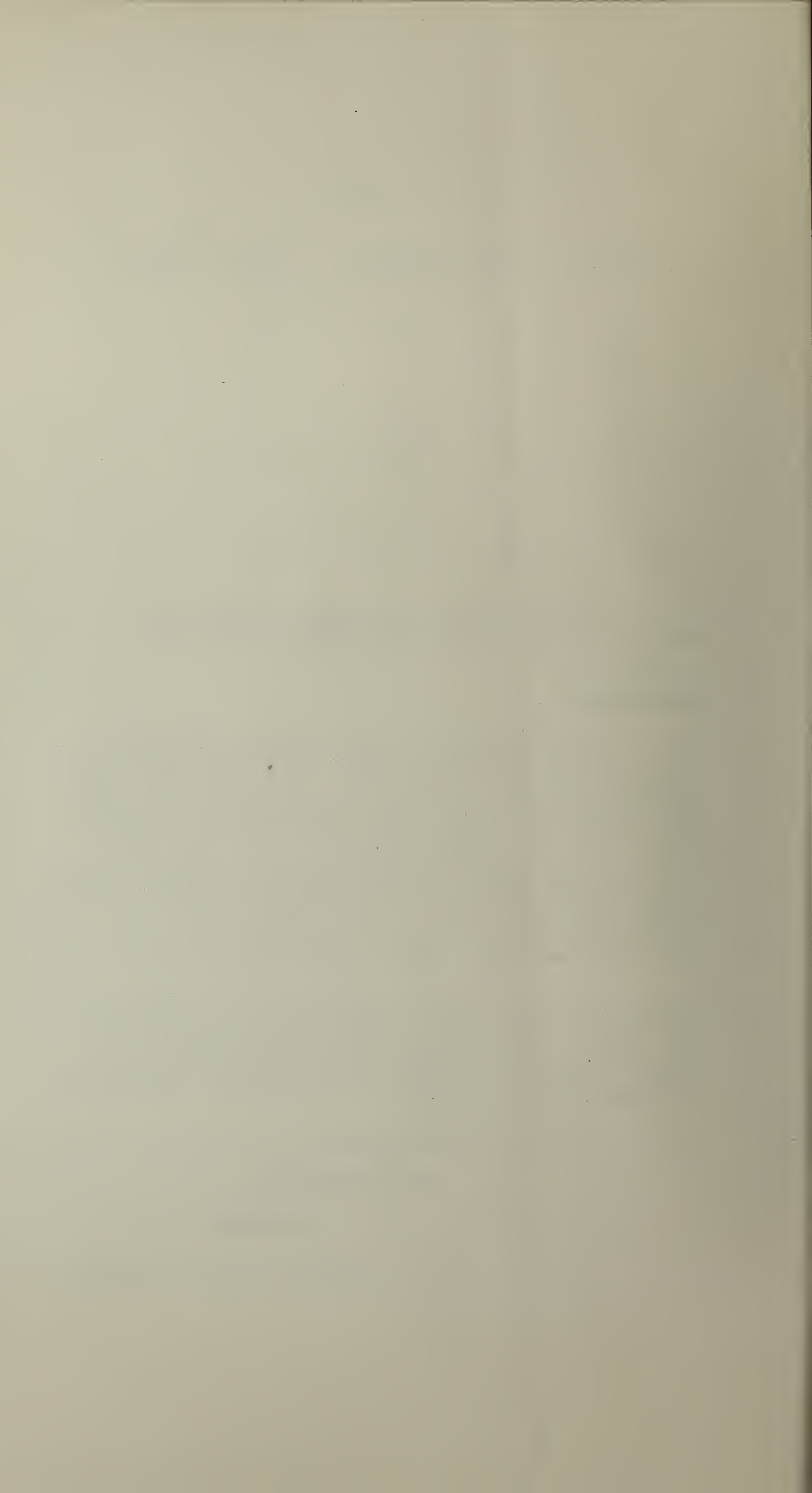
One last point. In some way it is peculiarly appropriate that I should render the last report of the last part-time Medical Officer of Health of your area, for the first report of the first part-time Medical Officer of Health of your area was rendered by my kinsman, Dr. H. Bailey.

I have the honour to be,

Yours sincerely,

J. E. OUTHWAITE

Medical Officer of Health.



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MAY 1948
URBAN DISTRICT OF HORSFORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR

Year ended 31st December, 1947.

E. M. BIRTWISLE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the year ended 31st December, 1947

Horsforth Hall,
HORSFORTH.

October, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Horsforth Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to place before you my fifth annual report in which is given a brief review of the work of my Department and the sanitary conditions obtaining in your District during the year 1947.

HOUSING

My previous reports have painted a dismal picture of the housing situation of many of the residents in the district, but this year, although conditions are far from satisfactory and numbers of our people are living under most difficult circumstances, the picture is considerably lightened by the appearance of new houses in our midst. These new houses provide intense satisfaction for those who are fortunate enough to become occupants and tangible rays of hope for those who are still patiently awaiting their turn for accommodation on a reasonable standard. Twelve houses were provided by this Council and forty-five by private enterprise.

The train of persons with problems of overcrowding or unsatisfactory living accommodation has continued to pass through my office, but one still comes across families who patiently put up with serious difficulties without complaint, quietly waiting their turn for attention, and only coming to our notice when some other matter requires a visit to their house.

Some of the more serious cases of overcrowding have been dealt with by the allocation of Council owned houses, although in cases where large families are involved difficulty has been encountered in securing accommodation large enough for their needs, as no four bedroomed houses are at present being erected. Whilst the demand for four bedroomed houses is limited, it is essential that an adequate proportion of these be provided for use under these circumstances.

The abatement of unsatisfactory conditions due to housing defects has made little headway during the year. In most of the worst cases the only remedy is the demolition of the structure concerned and it would not be reasonable to ask for any extensive remedial works

to these houses at the present time. It is obvious that the Council will have to consider the making of demolition orders in the near future in order that the unfortunate families living in unsatisfactory conditions can be re-housed, without the risk of the houses being re-let, and so increasing the problem. I am happy to note that at the time of writing this report steps are already being taken in this direction.

Often the importance accorded to a local authority service is in proportion to its cost, and with building costs at the high level of today the work of securing the repair of unsatisfactory houses ranks as one of the most costly duties performed by the Council, though the money is not defrayed out of the general rate but has to be borne by the owners of the property concerned. In most cases rent income has remained at its pre-war level although the cost of maintenance of property has been considerably increased, and the existence of the gap between rents and the cost of maintenance calls for great consideration prior to recommending remedial housing work.

This state of affairs makes demolition the only reasonable way of dealing with the poor class of house where the cost of any attempt to bring conditions up to the general standard of housing in the district would be quite unreasonable, and it also has the effect of contributing to the neglect of property of a higher standard acquired pre-war for investment purposes. This neglect is rapidly reducing houses which might have been a subject for re-conditioning to a state where more drastic action will be necessary.

The good standard of the new houses now being erected is playing its part in raising the general standard of housing in the district and will necessitate a higher standard of reconditioning and improvement for premises in which formal action is taken under the provisions of the Housing Acts. Particularly does this factor apply to the number of bedrooms. Three bedroomed houses having been found to be a most economic unit, providing at a cost not greatly in excess of a two bedroomed house facilities for the occasional entertaining of visitors, accommodation for increases in the family, the proper separation of sexes amongst the children, and for the possibility of isolation in cases of illness including the minor infectious diseases.

BUILDING LICENSING

The routine work of the Department was considerably interrupted by carrying out the duties of licensing building work, and in this the second year of the scheme, the number of licences issued increased to 557 authorising the carrying out of work valued at £32,563.

This work has been carried out to meet the restrictions imposed by the Government Departments concerned, but in such a way as to give the maximum assistance to applicants so as to enable all reasonably essential work to be carried out and so relieve to some small extent the accumulation of repair work.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There has not been any great degree of activity in this section of the work, although the licence free periods prescribed in the Public Health Act necessitate visits to moveable dwellings which appear in the district out of all proportion to the value of the licensing provisions. There is one site which seems to be popular with certain itinerant van dwellers and each occasion they rest in the district calls for daily visiting to ensure that the 42 consecutive days or 60 days in any twelve months are not exceeded without the requirements of the Public Health Act being put into force. In most cases the persons concerned move on to another district immediately prior to the expiration of the 42 days period. One application for a licence to station a moveable dwelling in the district was refused on the grounds that the land on which it was proposed to station the caravan was in close proximity to existing buildings and unsuitable for the site of a moveable dwelling.

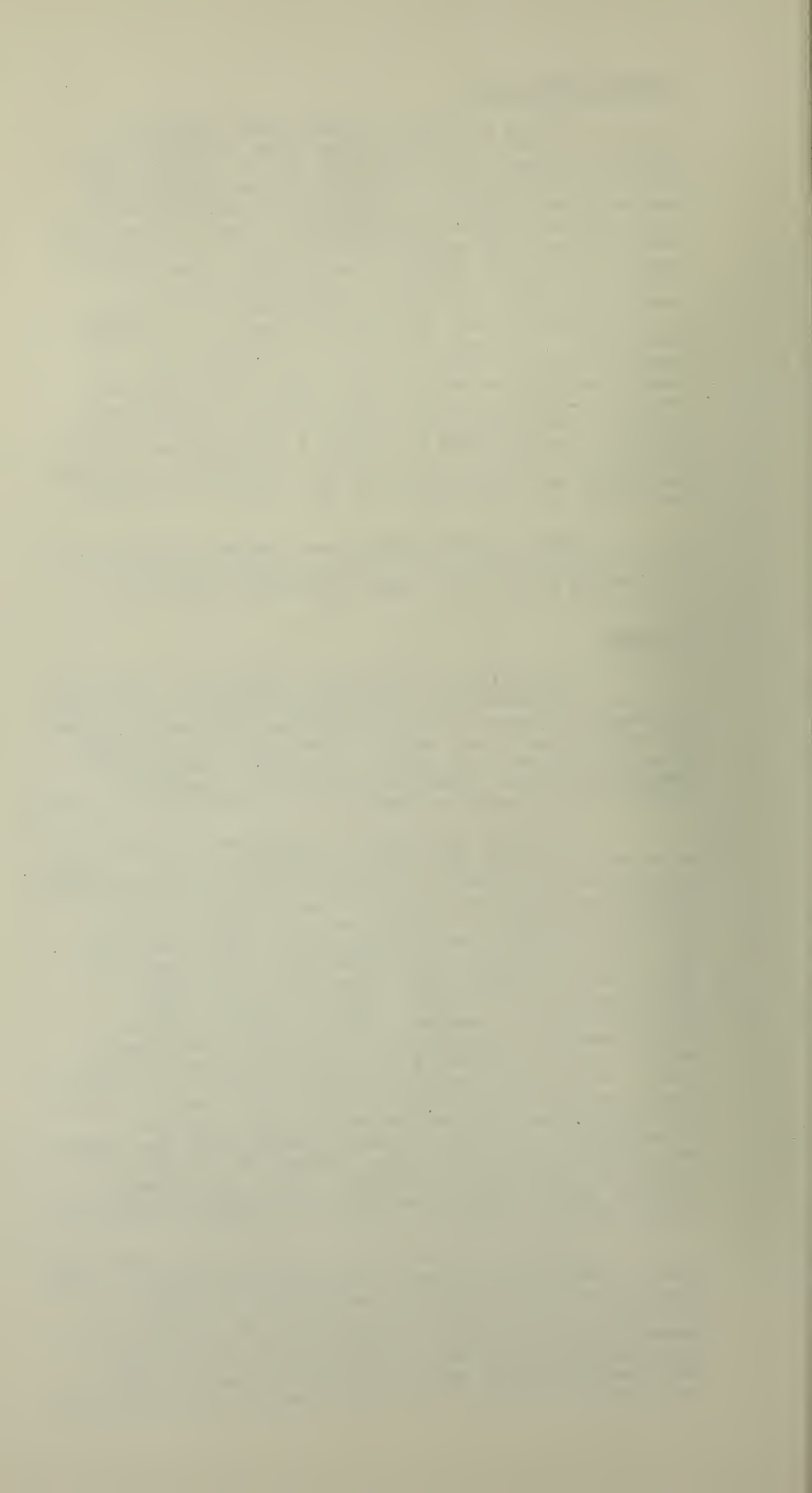
There remains only one licence in force in the district, and this for the use of land for the stationing of not more than one trailer caravan.

DRAINAGE

I mentioned in my last report the conversion of privy accommodation at Woodbottom Mills and Red Beck Cottages, to water closets, and that Aireborough Urban District Council had agreed to receive the drainage from these into their sewer. This work has now been completed and the opportunity taken of providing additional sanitary accommodation and washing facilities.

In March and April a considerable amount of work had to be put in on the investigation of a nuisance arising in the culvert in the vicinity of New Road Side, Featherbank Lane and Regent Avenue. Primarily the nuisance appeared to be due to a leakage of petrol into this culvert, which originally formed part of the sewerage system of the district and is now used mainly as a surface water sewer, but during the investigations it became apparent that the main pollution was by coal gas. The assistance of the Public Analyst was enlisted to identify the vapour present and he devised a portable apparatus for this work. As a result of these investigations it was found that a gas main was fractured at a point where it lay adjacent to the culvert in Newlay Lane, and the labyrinth of subsidiary drains feeding into the culvert were assisting in dispersing the gas to the various points at which nuisance arose. Later it became evident that at least one point the trouble arose from petrol washings gaining access to the culvert also.

On the afternoon and evening of the 30th May 1947, a particularly heavy rainstorm developed and gave rise to severe flooding in various parts of the district, a result of the inability of the surface water drainage system to receive storm water at a sufficiently rapid rate. As Horsforth is situated on a comparatively steep hillside the run off from surrounding land on to the paved roads of the district



is very rapid, and ditches and becks quickly become filled to overflowing, adding their overflow to the already surcharged sewers. While I feel that the Council are not called upon to provide a system which could be guaranteed to cope with a storm of such magnitude it is apparent that there are certain portions of the district in which surface water drainage is not provided on a sufficiently large scale.

Rivers and Streams

The summer months brought their usual crop of complaints from occupiers of houses in the Victoria and Newlay areas, of the offensive smell emanating from the River Aire, and allegations of offensive matter being discharged into the river locally. Investigations revealed that the nuisance arose mainly from the lowering of the amount of fresh water in the river without any appreciable reduction in trade and sewage effluents, and the consequent increase in the percentage of permissible pollution. No evidence was found of any appreciable addition of pollution during the passage of the river from our west to east boundaries.

Serious nuisance was found to exist at the rear of houses in Hawksworth Road whose gardens abut the lower reaches of Cow Beck. A little higher up the beck a weir is formed to divert water into Kirkstall Forge goit, while downstream from the weir is a storm-water overflow from the sewer in Hawksworth Road. During the summer months the beck was so low that the weir was acting as a dam and arresting the whole of the water and diverting it into the goit so that on occasions when the storm water overflow came into operation dilute sewage was discharged into the dry bed of the stream and formed into deep pools. This, it will readily be imagined, gave rise to considerable aerial nuisance and steps had to be taken to chlorinate these pools at frequent intervals. The Council eventually decided to close entirely the storm water overflow.

WATER SUPPLY

The Council's water mains now provide a supply for 4,321 houses. There are still 21 houses which are supplied from private springs and wells, and six houses supplied from the mains of a private water company operating in a neighbouring area. These 27 premises are situated where geographical conditions make it impracticable to provide a supply from the Council's main.

The approximate populations so served are as follows:-

Council's Water Main	13,698
Private Water Company	20
Private wells and springs	102

Bacteriological control of the water supply is maintained by routine sampling, the samples being examined in the West Riding County Council Public Health Laboratory.

Sampling for Bacteriological Examination

State of water	Result of examination	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Before treatment	2	10
After treatment and chlorination.	6	-

Samples were also submitted to the laboratory for examination for plumbo-solvency. The results of these examinations are as follows:-

Sampling for Plumbo Solvent Action

Where sampled	Result of examination	
	pH value	Lead content (grains per gallon)
20 Stanhope Drive		
water in pipe $\frac{1}{2}$ hour	6.9	Nil.
water in pipe all night	6.9	Nil.

Sampling for Chemical Analysis

Where sampled	Result of analysis	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
House tap fed from main supply.	1	-

In January 1947 the Committee called for a special report on this subject and it is re-produced here for information and record.

" Control Sampling at Horsforth Waterworks

At your last meeting I was requested to prepare a report on the results of bacteriological examinations of the water entering the Council's middle reservoir and on the implications revealed.

INTRODUCTION

It may assist Members to appreciate the position more clearly by outlining the development of control sampling and bacteriological examination as practiced today. It has long been realised that it is impracticable to maintain a search for the presence of specific pathogenic bacteria such as typhoid bacilli in water supplies mainly due to the fact that the possibility of contamination of the gathering grounds by a typhoid carrier is remote and as typhoid bacilli die fairly rapidly in water it would only be a lucky chance if any bacilli introduced into the feeders were present on the day when a sample was taken. If such contamination was repeated or continuous then the chance of finding the bacilli would be greater. In practice, suspicion of a water supply arises more frequently as the

result of epidemiological rather than bacteriological enquiry.

This difficulty of demonstrating the presence of pathogenic organisms was realised by earlier workers on the subject who, as an alternative, adopted an indirect approach to the problem as a readier means of control and they concentrated on the examination of water for evidence of excretal or sewage pollution on the assumption that if pollution of this type occurred the water was potentially dangerous. Chemical means were evolved for the detection of organic matter depending on the estimation of chemical substances normally present in polluted water and considerable progress was made in this way but it was found that these tests were not sufficiently delicate for the detection of minor degrees of contamination.

With the rise of bacteriology, efforts were made to supplement the chemical analysis, and at first these consisted of approximate estimations of the number of bacteria present - the greater the number of colonies, the greater presumably was the amount of organic matter in the water. These tests, however, had little advantage over the chemical methods.

It became necessary, therefore, to be able to determine whether bacterial species of known excretal origin were present, particularly organisms of the coliform group, faecal streptococci, and clostridium welchii, since these organisms are constantly present in the human intestine, usually in numbers greatly exceeding those of pathogenic intestinal bacilli. Since their death rate in water is rather slower than that of organisms of the enteric group, it follows that whenever typhoid or paratyphoid bacilli, for example, gain access to a water supply through excretal pollution, they are always accompanied by the natural organisms inhabiting the intestine mentioned above. The presence of coliform bacilli in water is evidence of recent excretal pollution but is not of itself conclusive evidence of danger. It is, nevertheless, sufficient to indicate potential danger.

As bacterium coli can be detected in numbers as small as one in 100 ml. of water, and since its presence can be demonstrated with greater ease than the other species of excretal origin, its detection has been generally adopted as the routine test for bacteriological control sampling and methods have been developed which enable a comparatively rapid examination to be made. This permits the examination of a considerably larger number of samples than when more elaborate typing of bacteria is attempted, and when it is borne in mind that the result of a laboratory examination of water is only of value when it can be compared with many others taken at recent intervals, the advantage of this will be realised.

CONTROL MEASURES

I can find no records of regular routine bacteriological control sampling from the feeders of your waterworks until the development of the Aerodrome runways during the war interfered with your gathering grounds, and then at the request of an Officer of the Ministry of Health we undertook sampling at intervals in order to keep a check on the bacteriological condition of the water



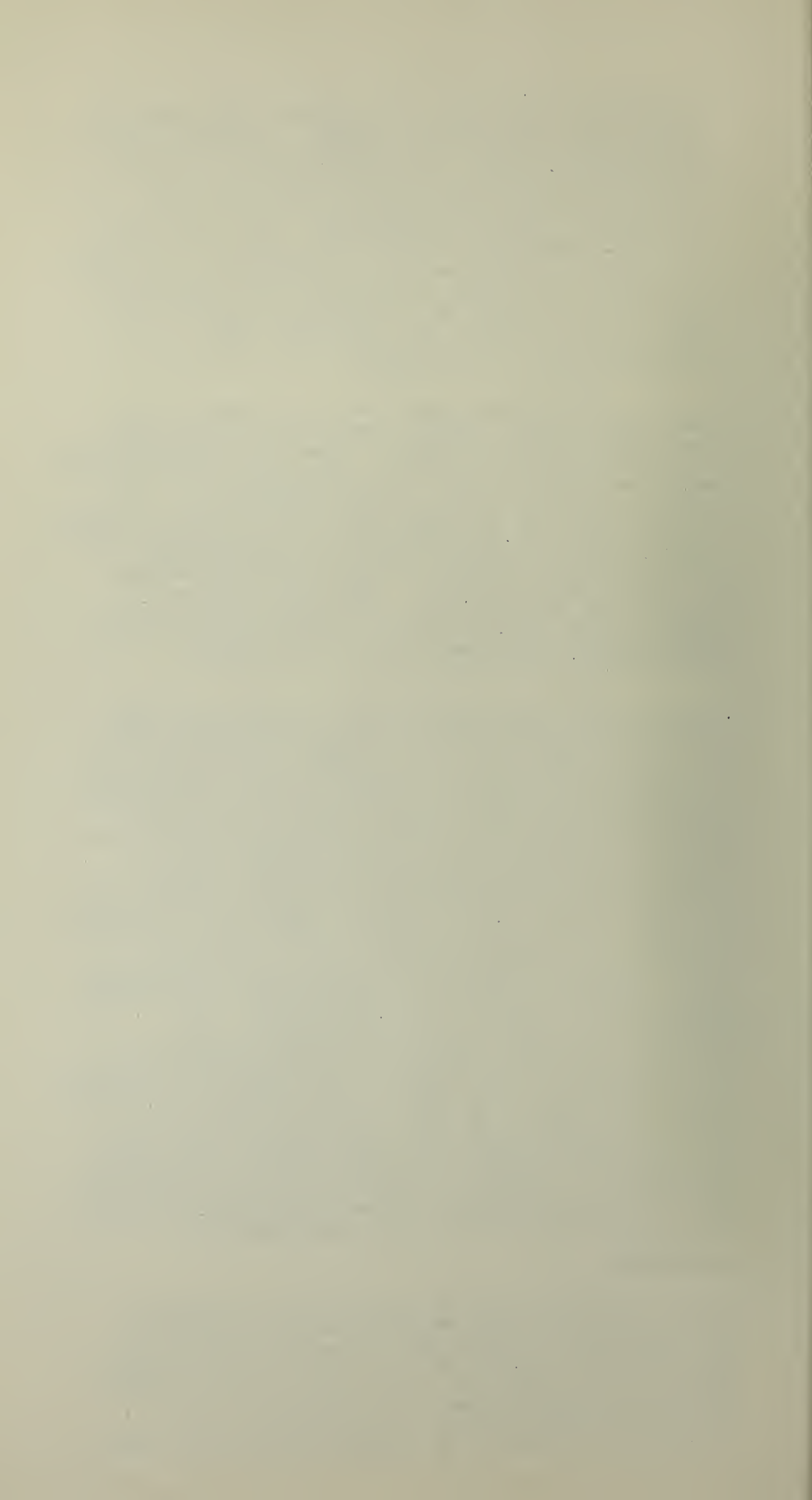
in Aerodrome and Bloomingdale feeders which were the feeders most likely to be affected. We have, however, a record going back to 1st September 1905 of most comprehensive control sampling from house taps, but the examination of these samples up to 1931 was confined to chemical analysis, which at that time was the standard method of examination. From that date up to 1933 some bacteriological samples were collected but chemical analysis was the chief method of control. From 1933 bacteriological examination was practiced more widely, but the estimation of the purity of the water depended largely on a bacterial count. This method was eventually replaced by the estimation of the presumptive *B. coli* content.

The records show that on occasions during these years, water samples from house taps fed from the Council's public supply to have been unsatisfactory, the last occasion being March 1938 when an isolated sample was found to have a high presumptive *B. coli* content. The presence of *B. coli* was also demonstrated in May 1940 in an isolated sample, but in such a small quantity that its presence did not make the water unsatisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health. Since that date on no occasion has presumptive *B. coli* been found in any samples taken from the mains, the water supply to the public having been shown to be of the highest bacteriological standard.

The first samples were collected from the Aerodrome and Bloomingdale feeders in September 1942 and this sampling has been continued at intervals to the present date, generally showing a high presumptive *B. coli* content during the summer months, dropping to a satisfactory standard in the winter months, but during this winter the water coming from this section of the gathering grounds has not improved and, in addition to having a presumptive *B. coli* content, a more detailed examination has shown the presence of faecal *B. coli*. In June 1946 our sampling was extended to cover the Whetstone Plantation feeder and this also was found to be unsatisfactory, and on the last occasion when sampling was undertaken on 13th January 1947 a sample was obtained from the Bayton Beck feeder, this was also found to be unsatisfactory. The opportunity was taken on this last occasion of sampling the bulked water in the middle reservoir, the same water after treatment with alumina and primary filtration and the same water after secondary filtration and chlorination. The water in the reservoir was found to be similar to that emanating from the feeders and to be satisfactory, but after primary filtration all traces of presumptive *B. coli* had been eliminated showing that secondary filtration and final chlorination are additional safeguards in the prevention of polluted water being distributed in the public supply.

CONCLUSION

From a study of the available evidence it would appear that the contamination of the Aerodrome and Bloomingdale feeders has become more continuous and that other feeders are in a similar state, though whether their condition is any worse than that which obtained previously cannot be estimated in view of lack of evidence, but the complete absence of presumptive *B. coli* in the comparatively large number



of samples taken from the public supply during the last six years indicates that the filtration and chlorination carried out by your plant has completely safeguarded the supply. It is, of course, the practice in some areas to accept river water which has received sewage effluents and by means of filtration and chlorination render the water fit for public supply, but I feel that we should not be satisfied with the present position at our works and should take whatever steps are available to improve the standard of water entering the impounding reservoirs. In order to assist in this, it is intended to carry out a thorough investigation of the whole of the gathering grounds feeding these polluted feeders so that some recommendations may be made for remedial works. This investigation will be carried out as soon as the weather conditions permit."

- - - - -

During the latter portion of the year trouble was experienced in certain parts of the district owing to an excessive chlorine content in the water, and arrangements were made for estimations of free chlorine to be carried out in the office to determine the extent of this trouble. During 1948 it was found that this was due to a defect in the chlorination plant at the Waterworks and this was effectually remedied.

FACTORIES, BAKEHOUSES & SHOPS

Inspection of these premises has been carried out as well as circumstances permit, although pressure of other work has considerably reduced our efficiency. This is particularly regrettable as the former high standard of administration in this respect has been considerably lowered. It is very necessary that we should be able to give much more attention in this direction, particularly in respect of premises where food-stuffs are prepared, stored and sold.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

The number of farms at which milk is produced in this district is now thirteen, seven of which are licensed for the production of graded milk under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, two for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk, and five for production of Accredited milk.

I must repeat the expression of regret that I made last year, that more of the producers do not undertake the production of graded milk and that even where milk is produced in conformity with a special grade it is sold loose as ordinary milk to consumers.

Considerable difference of opinion exists as to the necessity for the compulsory pasteurisation of milk and if producers would so organise their arrangements for the production of milk that they complied with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, in relation to the production, bottling, and retailing of tuberculin tested milk,



they would be well able to counter any suggestions as to the necessity of pasteurising their milk and be able to hand on to the public a product worthy of the labour which they put into its production. The milk would be in its natural state as nature meant it to be consumed, delivered to the public within a reasonable time after production and subjected to a minimum amount of handling.

Pasteurisation may be a necessary process for keeping milk which has to travel long distances in a suitable condition for sale to a public far removed from centres of production, but situated as we are on the fringe of good agricultural country, our consumers should be in a position to receive their milk under good conditions and within a very short time of its having left the cow.

It is unfortunate that difficulties in obtaining and the cost of bottles have re-introduced the method of retailing milk loose, and it is to be hoped that before long it might be possible to produce non-returnable containers for holding milk, at a price which will make their use universal.

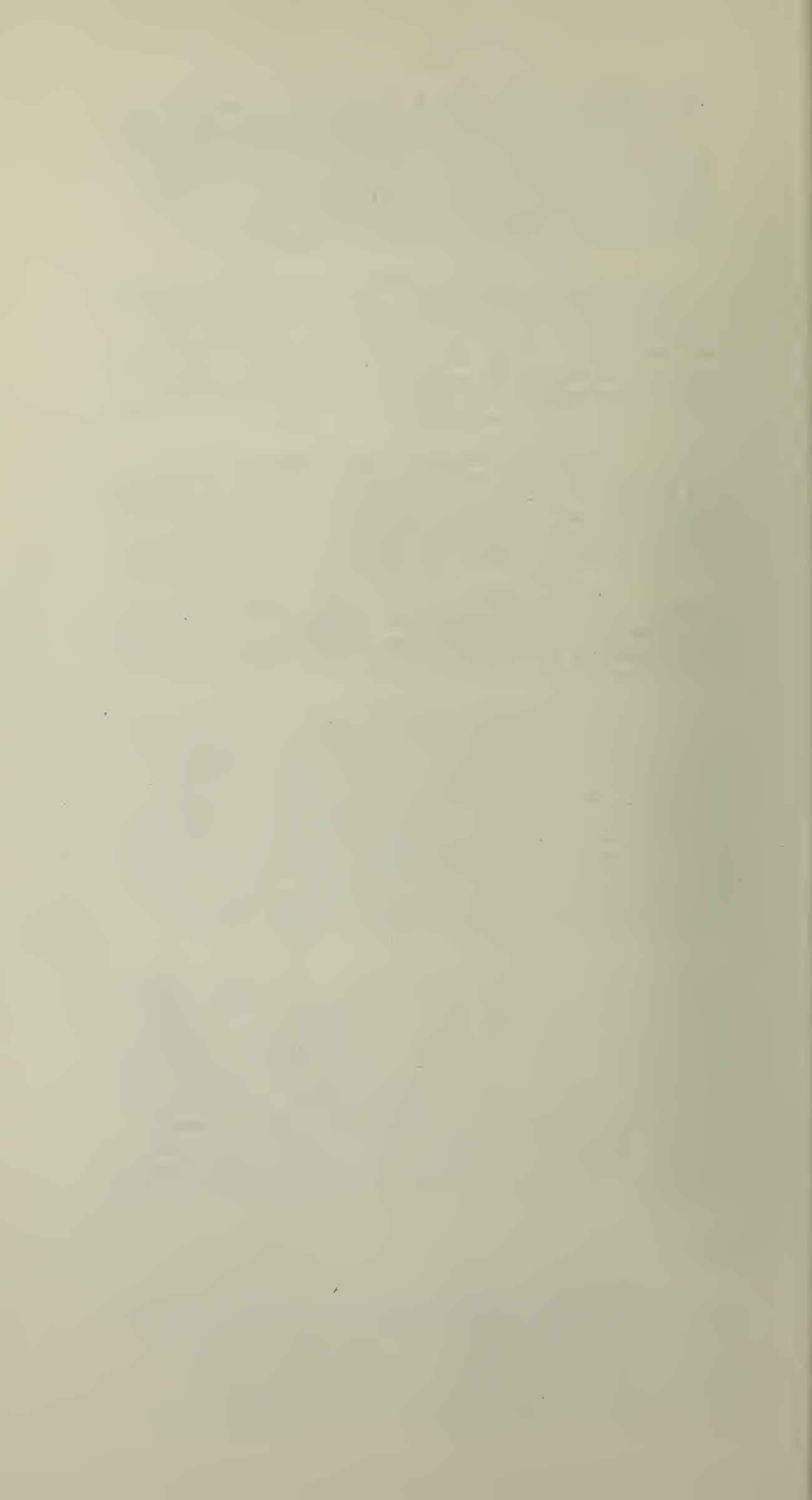
It is to be regretted that there are still restrictions on the choice of retailer as the public are deprived of demonstrating their preference for milk produced and delivered in a way which satisfies their demands.

Much has been stated during the last few years on the reduction of the chemical standard of milk produced by some herds and it is disquieting to note that three samples taken during the year from three separate sources of supply were found to contain only 8.12%, 8.31% and 8.42% respectively of solids not fat. The presumptive limit prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations is that the solids not fat should be not less than 8.5%. By the use of the freezing point test the analyst was able to certify that although the samples were so low in solids not fat, they were genuine milk.

As a matter of interest, the sample giving 8.12% solids not fat was followed up with an appeal to the cow sample and from one section of the herd milked under supervision and yielding some 15 gallons the milk was found to contain only 8.06% solids not fat. Many factors may be attributed to this decline in standard but it is strongly felt in my profession, and by others, that it is imperative that a legal minimum standard should be fixed so that producers would be required to arrange the feeding and breeding of their herds so as to produce milk of satisfactory quality.

Meat.

The restrictions imposed by the Ministry of Food on the use of local private slaughterhouses by butchers for the slaughter of livestock continues, and the only use to which these buildings are put is the occasional slaughter of pigs for private owners or on occasions of emergency slaughter being necessary. The Council continue their policy



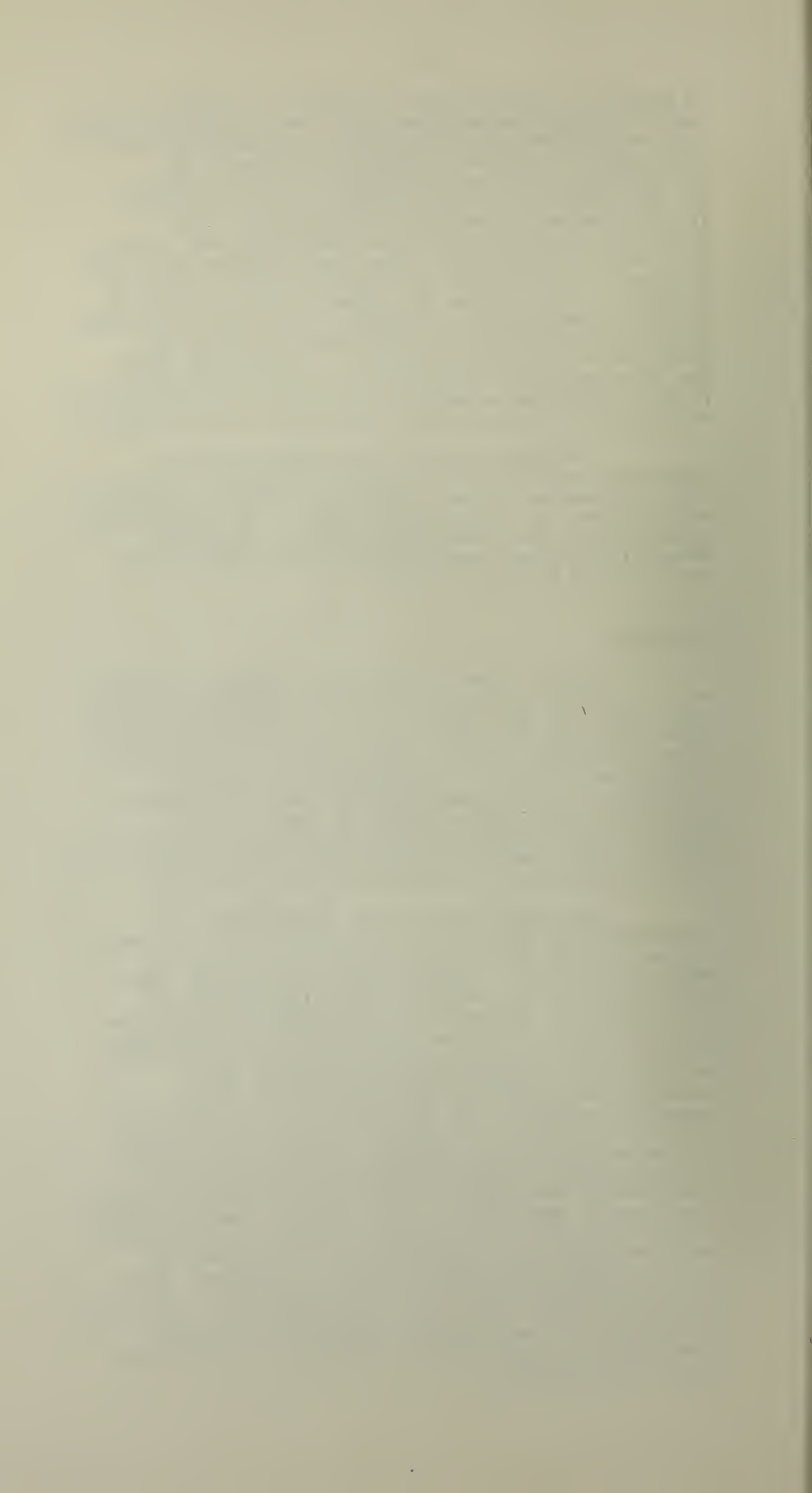
of keeping in force licences granted in respect of these slaughterhouses under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, bearing in mind the Government's promise to restore the rights of private butchers with regard to slaughtering their own livestock in due course. The majority of the slaughterhouses in the district fall far below a reasonable standard for such buildings and the lack of use during the war period has given rise to their being used for numerous other purposes. I feel that the Council would do well to consider at this stage the formulation of plans for a public slaughterhouse properly sited and conforming with modern standards so that when the right is restored to private butchers of slaughtering their own livestock, the Council will be in a position to provide them with a building in which proper facilities are available and adequate supervision can be given.

The meat received for distribution in Horsforth comes from the Leeds Distribution Centre and is allocated by the Horsforth Butchers Association and delivered to the butchers shops. The methods of distribution leave much to be desired, although generally they are considerably better than in the early stages of this scheme.

Ice Cream

At the close of the year nineteen premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ices or the storage of ice cream intended for sale, two of these premises also being registered for the manufacture of ice cream for the purpose of sale. One premises previously registered for the manufacture of ice cream for sale was removed from the register by means of the formalities prescribed in the Act, the premises having become used for purposes which were incompatible with their use for the manufacture of ice cream.

The year 1947 saw the introduction of legislation controlling the production of ice cream, in the form of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947. These regulations require that subject to certain qualifications ingredients of ice cream be heat treated after being mixed and the mixture cooled until the freezing process is begun, and that ice cream which has risen above 28°F. shall be again heat treated and cooled before sale. Owing to the difficulty in obtaining adequate apparatus producers are provided with a conditional defence in respect of alleged offences with regard to the cooling of the mixture, and the sections of the regulations dealing with the installation of thermometers have not yet been brought into operation. Exemption is provided in cases where a complete cold mix is used for the manufacture of ice cream with no addition except that of water, in which case the product when reconstituted shall be converted into ice cream within one hour of reconstitution. The regulations have made little alteration in the methods of manufacture used in this district, the normal operations necessitating the boiling of the product during manufacture.



ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

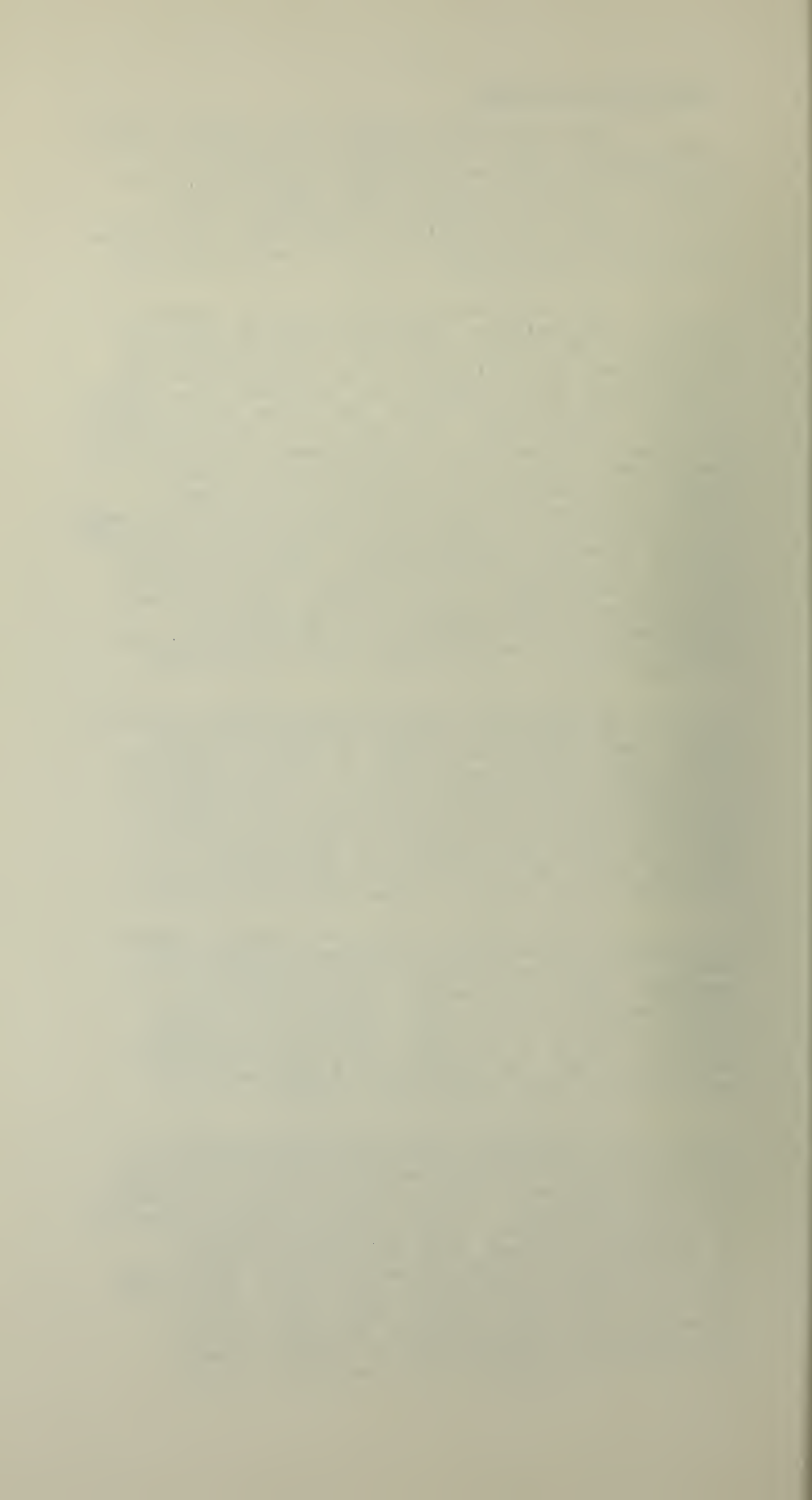
The use of the standard soot deposit gauge installed 1st January 1946 in the garden of 78, Broadgate Walk, was continued on the same site, which is as near as possible the centre of the built-up residential area of the district. To Mr. B. Holmes, the occupier of this house, our thanks are due for his permission to use a portion of his garden for this purpose.

The information provided by the analyst's report on the material collected month by month is set out in the table on page 12, from which it will be seen that the pollution during the year 1947 was very similar to that during the year 1946, the deposit being at the rate of 166 tons per square mile compared with 161 tons in 1946. The amount of tar deposited to the square mile was 3.31 tons compared with 3.85 tons during 1946. It would be helpful to have similar gauges in other parts of the district to obtain comparative results, but in the absence of other gauges it is proposed to re-site our present gauge at the end of 1948 in order to ascertain the degree of deposit, firstly on more industrial sites, and later on the less built-up areas. In its present site the gauge is useful as indicating the very considerable contribution to the pollution of the atmosphere made by the burning of raw fuel as a means of domestic heating.

The post-war housing programme and the lead given by the Ministry of Health in their Housing Manual 1944 raised great hopes of forms of heating being adopted which would lead to a great reduction of pollution from domestic sources. Unfortunately, the manufacturers of smokeless solid fuel domestic appliances have not been able to produce their new models in sufficient quantity to meet demands, and the limitation in the use of gas and electricity has prevented the full use of these forms of heating.

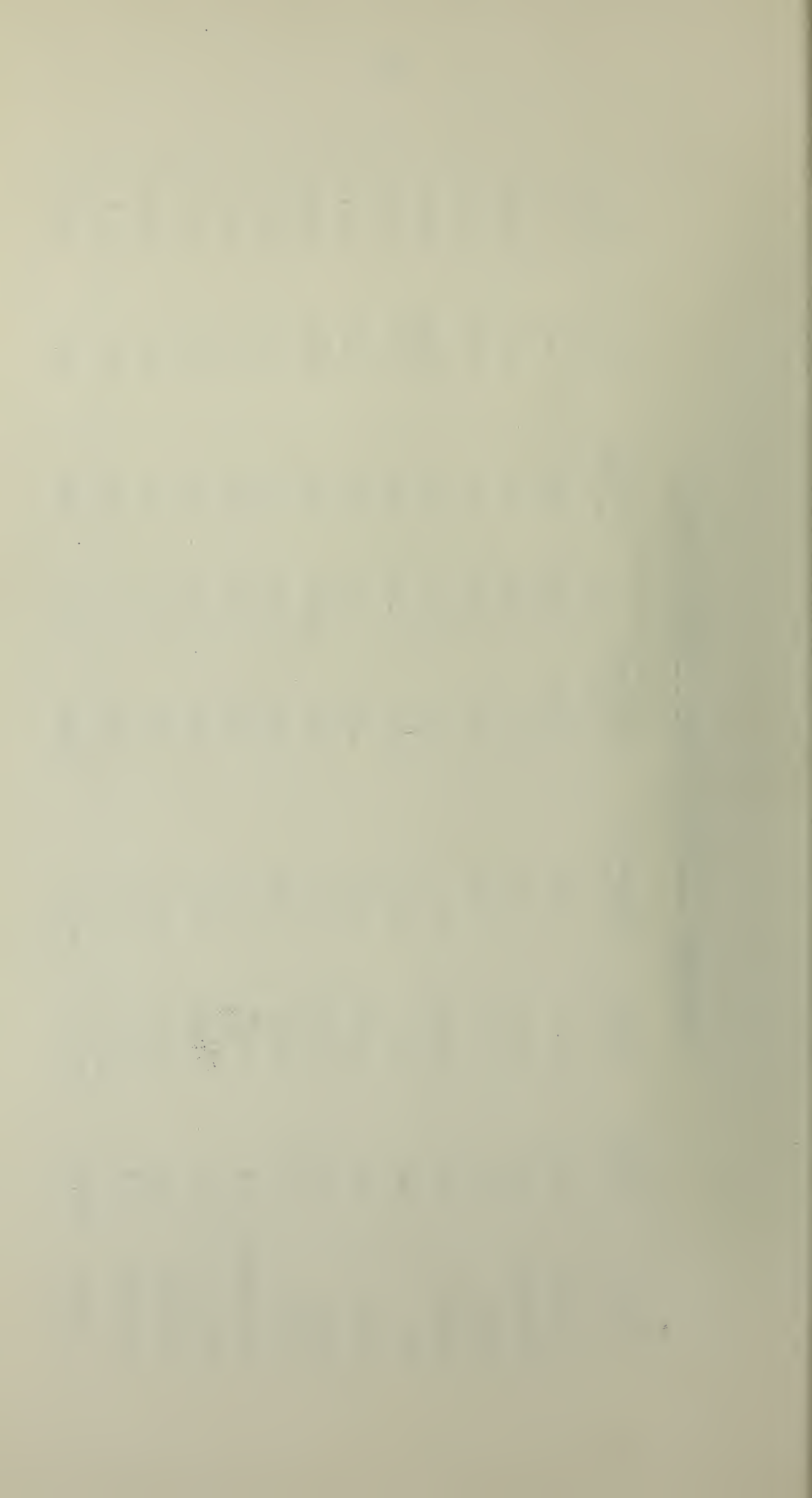
We look forward to the day when the public will realise how much they contribute towards the damage to their own clothing and furnishings by the continual emission of tarry products into the atmosphere, and how far they minimise the efforts of the housewife in cleaning her house and washing clothes. It is to be hoped that this realisation may coincide with an opportunity to put smokeless heating in its many forms into practice.

It is unfortunate that we have in this district one industrial plant which continues to be a source of nuisance from the discharge of quantities of black smoke and of other smoke in such quantities as to be a nuisance. Persons approaching the township are immediately aware of two prominent landmarks - St. Margaret's Church, with its graceful spire, and the chimney of this industrial plant, which more often than not distributes an umbrella of smoke over the area. The plant has been kept under regular observation and the management have taken steps to minimise the nuisance but the visible results have not been as marked as one would have hoped.

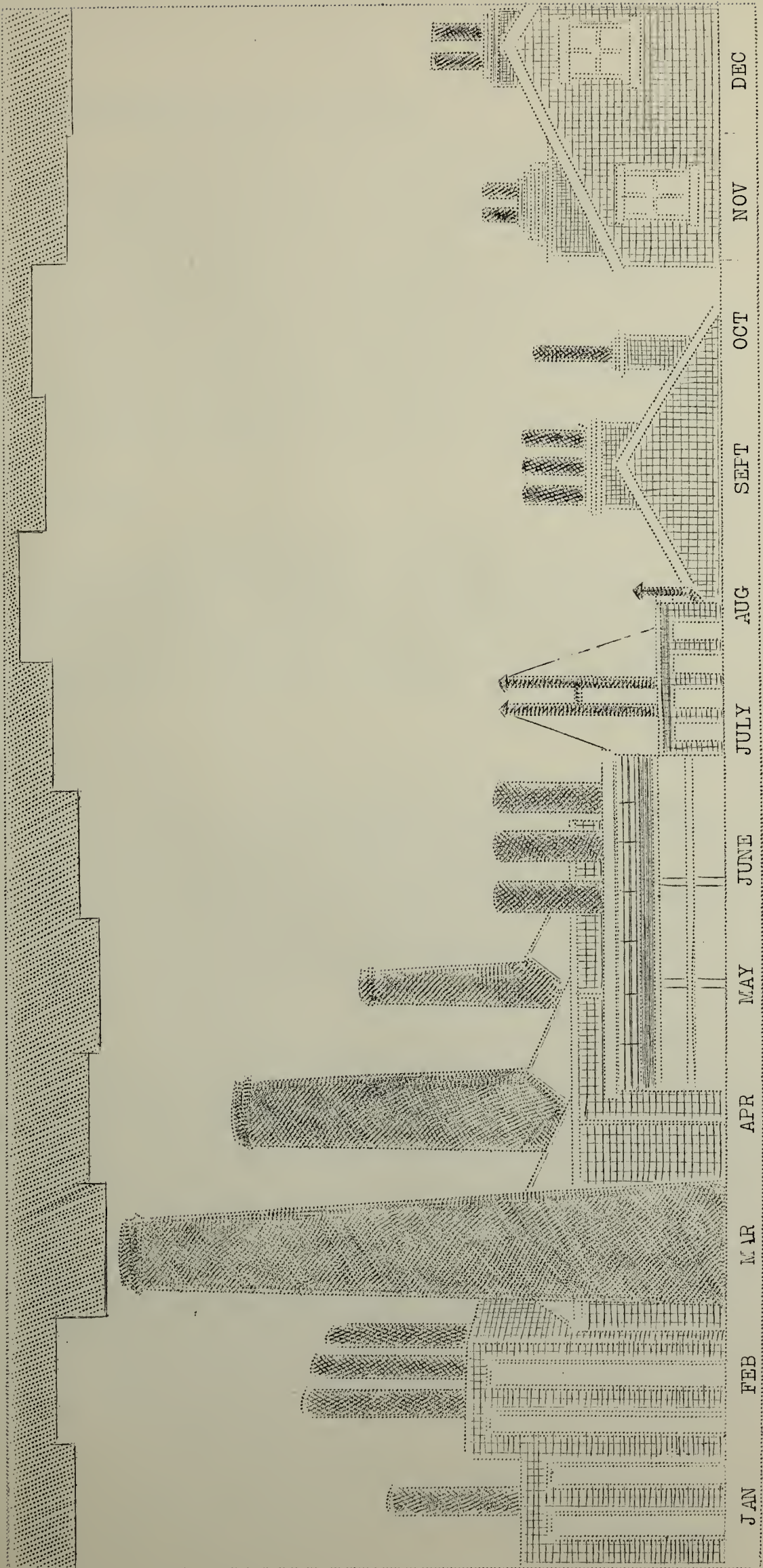


ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION FOR 1947 - MONTHLY ANALYSES

Month	Rainfall inches	Tons per square mile						Lime as Ca.
		Total solids	Undissolved matter	Dissolved matter	Tar	Sulphate as SO ₃	Chlorine as Cl.	
January	2.26	15.58	6.68	8.89	0.26	.065	.047	.004
February	1.77	19.63	4.48	15.15	0.26	.138	.065	.004
March	3.9	27.83	17.55	10.28	0.75	.100	.056	.025
April	3.0	22.16	10.31	11.85	0.29	.096	.084	Trace
May	3.6	16.17	10.87	15.30	0.49	.058	.041	.012
June	2.8	10.90	6.58	4.41	0.16	.045	.022	.011
July	1.81	9.55	5.76	3.79	0.36	.035	.022	.003
August	.25	3.32	1.84	1.48	0.13	.012	.006	.007
September	1.4	8.82	5.13	3.69	0.13	.031	.019	.004
October	1.0	8.49	4.81	3.68	0.16	.028	.035	.006
November	2.2	10.44	5.10	5.34	0.19	.057	.031	Trace
December	2.3	12.74	5.33	7.41	0.13	.067	.058	.004
Totals	26.29	165.63	84.44	91.27	3.31	.732	.486	.080

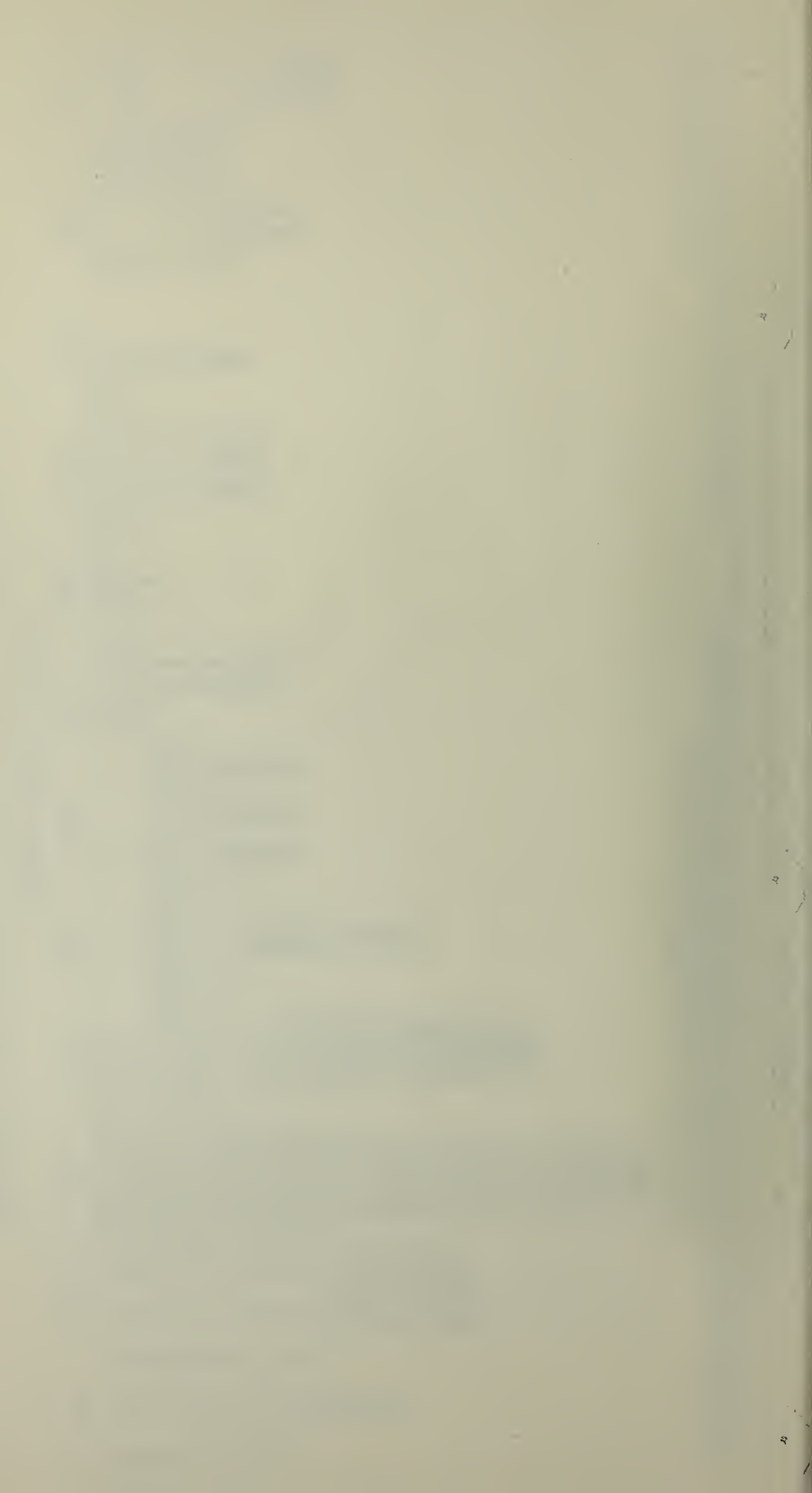


MONTHLY RAINFALL IN 1947 (Indicated by portions shaded by dots).



MONTHLY SOOTFALL IN 1947.

(The height of the chimneys represent the amount of sootfall during the month).



DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The routine work of disinfection of premises after removal of cases of infectious disease to the Isolation Hospital has been continued, and in some cases terminal disinfection of premises after cases of infectious disease nursed at home. The internal surfaces of rooms and large articles of furniture were disinfected by spraying and fumigation, and bedding and clothing were transferred to the Isolation Hospital by courtesy of the Joint Board, and disinfected in the steam disinfector. The facilities for steam disinfection at the Isolation Hospital are most useful as the Council have no disinfection plant of their own. Isolation Hospital transport has also been made available to us on these occasions.

Bed Bugs

This district is agreeably free from this type of infestation, but on occasions our services are enlisted by occupiers of premises which have become infested. None of the cases dealt with during the year could be classed as serious infestations and they were dealt with by spraying either with a proprietary insecticide containing D.D.T. or liquid gammexene.

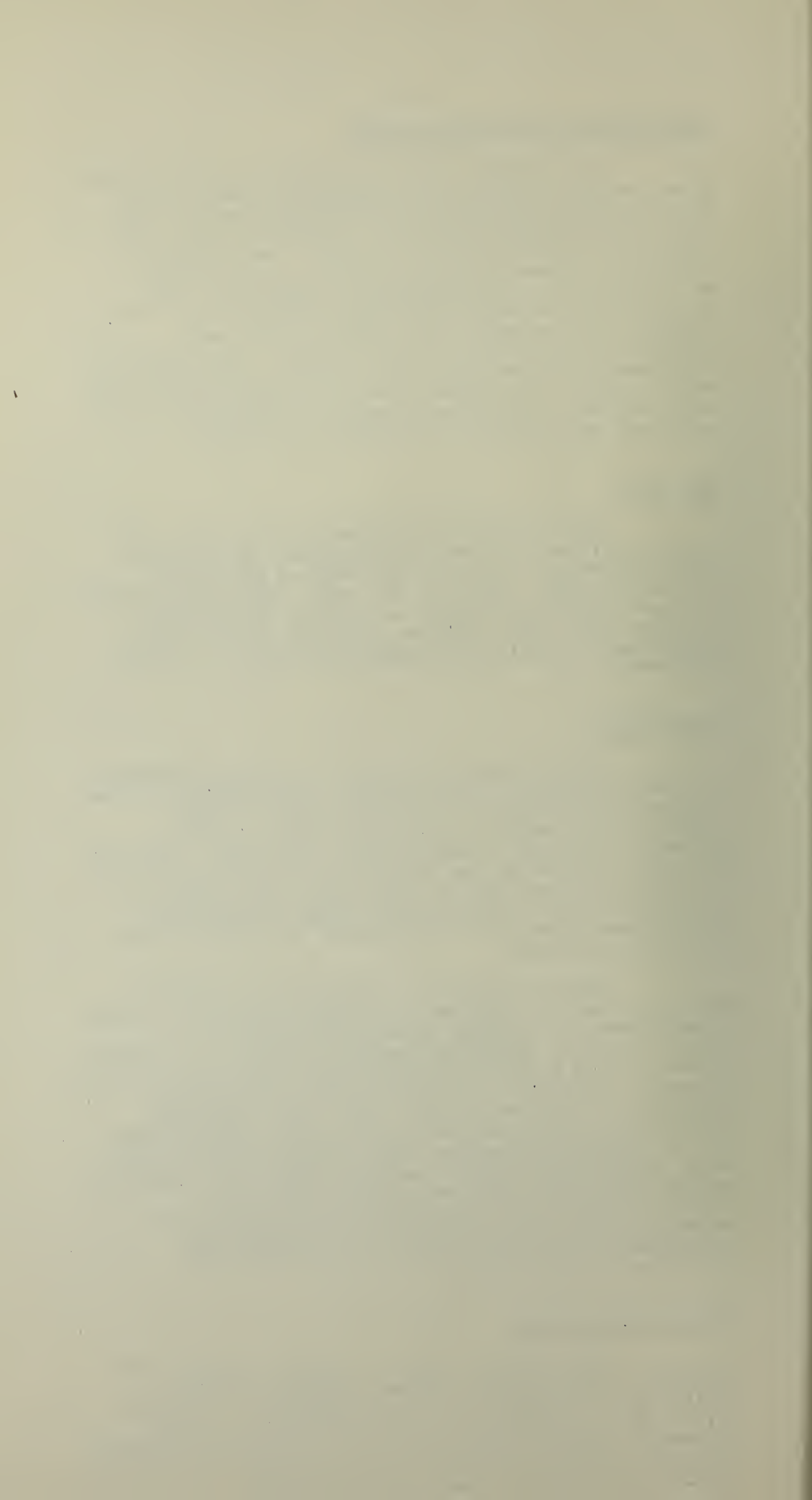
Cockroaches

These insects give rise to serious trouble in some portions of the district, particularly in the Council houses built in the early part of the programme following the 1914-1918 war, and were probably imported in ashes used on the site. Through the years following the erection of these houses efforts have been made to deal with the problem with the insecticides available and while considerable success was obtained in many cases the results did not prove lasting.

During the year a considerable amount of work was done in spraying the cavity under the living room floors with liquid gammexene and in the distribution of gammexene powder by means of a powder blower. This form of treatment has proved particularly effective and where householders are willing to co-operate fully the results have been excellent. Difficulty is experienced in the proper distribution of the insecticide as the under floor cavity is in many cases very shallow. At the time of writing this report experiments are being made with the distribution of the insecticide in the form of a smoke and the odourless type of generator now produced by the manufacturers is considerably assisting in this work.

Other Insect Pests.

From time to time we receive requests for assistance in dealing with many types of insect pests and the occupiers of the premises are advised on the best methods of dealing with these. Where necessary disinfestation work is carried out for them. This is a service which is greatly appreciated by the persons unfortunate enough to require it.



Rats & Mice

This type of infestation is happily comparatively rare in this district and arises chiefly as a result of poultry and pig keeping which has had a tendency to increase during the war period. Most infestation has taken place during the autumn when both rats and mice are seeking winter quarters. Mouse infestations are almost exclusively those of field mice, the house mouse being rarely found. Excellent co-operation exists between occupiers of premises and this Department, and prompt notification has been received in practically all cases where infestation has occurred. Modern methods of eradication which have been used for the last few years are much more effective if we receive information of infestation before any amateur poisoning is done.

The considerable gradient which exists in the Council's sewers, their comparatively small diameter, and the rapid run-off experienced during rainstorms frequently results in the sewers being in a condition of surcharge, and this factor together with general lack of infestation in the district results in our sewers being kept free from any rat infestations.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

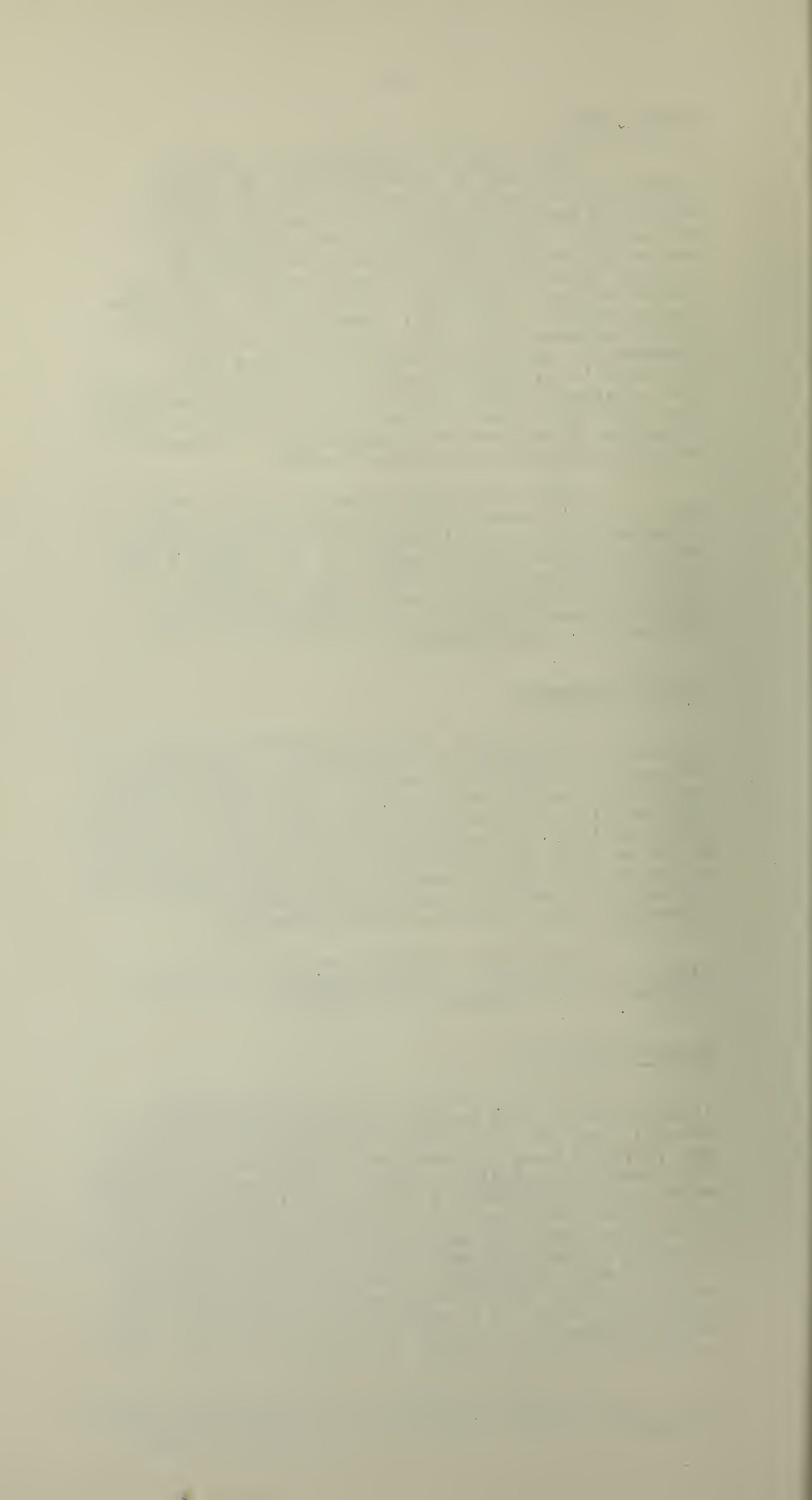
This service being one which directly affects all premises in the district, unfortunately attracts a considerable amount of criticism towards the service which we are able to give and its cost. Difficulties in securing an adequate amount of labour are principal hindrances towards providing a service which we would deem adequate, but I am convinced that no private contractor would be willing to attempt to execute the amount of work carried out in the Department with the same limited finances.

Much of the information and all the financial statistics in this section of the report relates to the financial year 1947-48.

Refuse Collection

The early part of the year saw serious dislocation to this service due to the unprecedented snowfall and the long period during which our men and vehicles were required for assisting the Highways Department in opening up roads. Even when the roads were opened sufficiently to allow a return to refuse collection, freezing snow lingered on footpaths and drives for many days and greatly retarded our efforts to catch up with arrears of collection. No men or vehicles were available to provide extra assistance and the credit should be given to the workmen of the Department, who, in a comparatively short time were able to reduce the period of collection to one more in keeping with our normal practice.

The work of refuse collection is one calling for a high physical standard and a personality which is ready to accept a ceaseless monotonous routine.



Such men are not easy to find and more attractive working conditions in other services and with other employers make it extremely difficult to recruit suitable labour.

It has been our practice throughout the war years to collect salvage at the same time as house refuse, except from certain shops and business premises. The extra journeys from the collecting vehicle to the house door, which is necessitated by salvage collection, adds considerably to the time taken, but it is felt that this method results in a saving both in manpower and transport over the adoption of a system of separate collection for house refuse and salvage.

The question of improving our salvage collection was under discussion at the close of the year and early in 1948 it was decided to pay a bonus to the workmen engaged in refuse collection and disposal based on increased salvage sales.

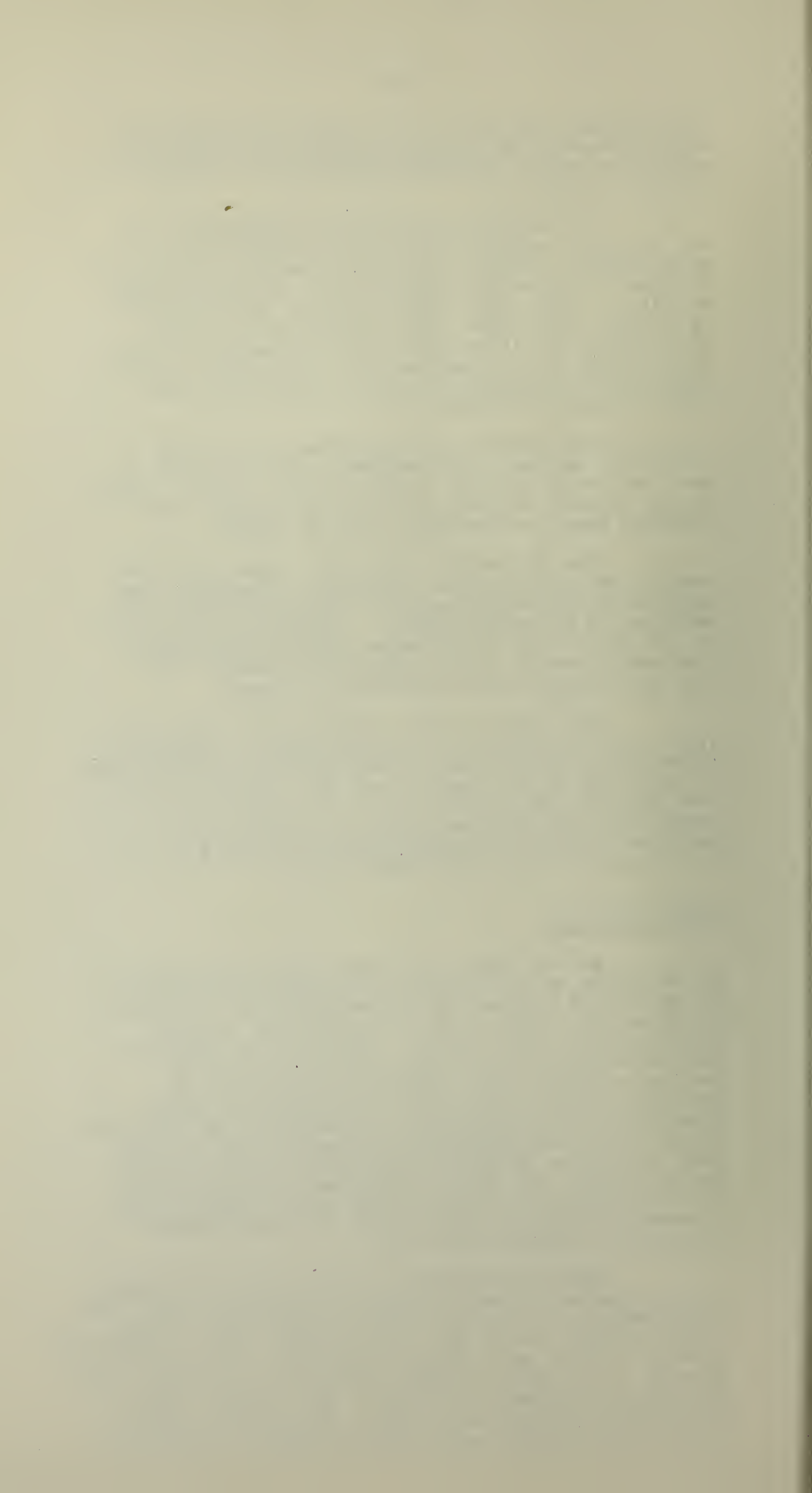
The collection of kitchen waste has been carried on as a separate collection, communal bins being distributed throughout the township from which material is collected weekly. This is transported to the Leeds Corporation concentrator plant and an equivalent amount of processed food brought back for sale to local pig and poultry keepers.

The Council gave consideration during the year to the adoption of the provisions of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the supply of dust bins by the Council and the recovery of the cost through the general rate. The Council were favourably inclined towards such a scheme but decided to defer detailed consideration until such time as the supply of dust bins became easier.

Refuse Disposal

As mentioned in my last report the disposal of the whole of our refuse is now being dealt with by controlled tipping on land acquired by the Council at Calverley Bridge. This land consists of three fields with a total area of $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres and except for one small portion the whole of the area will be available for use as a controlled tip and it is intended that the land shall eventually be raised some 30 ft. to the level of the Seacroft and Calverley County road. Accommodation is provided for dealing with the refuse produced in Horsforth for at least twenty years. The site is proving an excellent one for this purpose and the piping in of a ditch which crossed one of the fields is the only major work entailed in adapting the site.

Owing to shortage of labour and the absence of the regular tip man on holiday during the early part of September, the tip was left for some days without a man on duty, and on the 3rd September some unauthorised persons sorting over material deposited during that day, started a fire which rapidly spread over the whole of the exposed surface of the tip. The National Fire Service extinguished the surface fire and the portion of the tip affected was sealed off with a fine ash



sludge from a local power station. No further trouble was experienced.

Street Cleansing.

I mentioned in my last report that the Committee had adopted the principal of mechanising this service to its ultimate limit, owing to the high cost of labour and the extreme difficulties in recruitment. The early part of the year saw this service in great difficulties whilst awaiting delivery of a Lewin Sprinkler Sweeper Collector, and we were hard put to it to collect the abnormal amount of grit put down by the Highways Department during the icy conditions of the winter. On the 1st July the sweeper was delivered and our driver trained in the operation of the machine.

The condition of the roads soon showed a steady improvement but the accumulations of grit caused rapid wear to the brushes during the initial period of service.

Lack of attention to cleansing and maintenance work on the highways during the war has given the opportunity to many weeds to establish a firm hold with roots tucked well down below the metalling of footpaths and channels, and it is only by manual labour that this part of the work can be tackled.

At the request of the Ministry of Works we took over the sweeping and gully cleansing on the former Ministry of Aircraft Production estate in Broadgate Lane, at an annual charge.

Gully cleansing was continued by the employment of a hired horse and driver, and the utilisation of the Council's pan cart, but with the delivery of a Karrier Yorkshire Gully Emptier on the 11th February 1948, this service too has been considerably improved. With this machine, not only is the cleansing done in a much more satisfactory and pleasant manner, but increased attention can be given to gullies. The machine is adapted for the cleansing of cesspools and is giving very good service in this type of work.

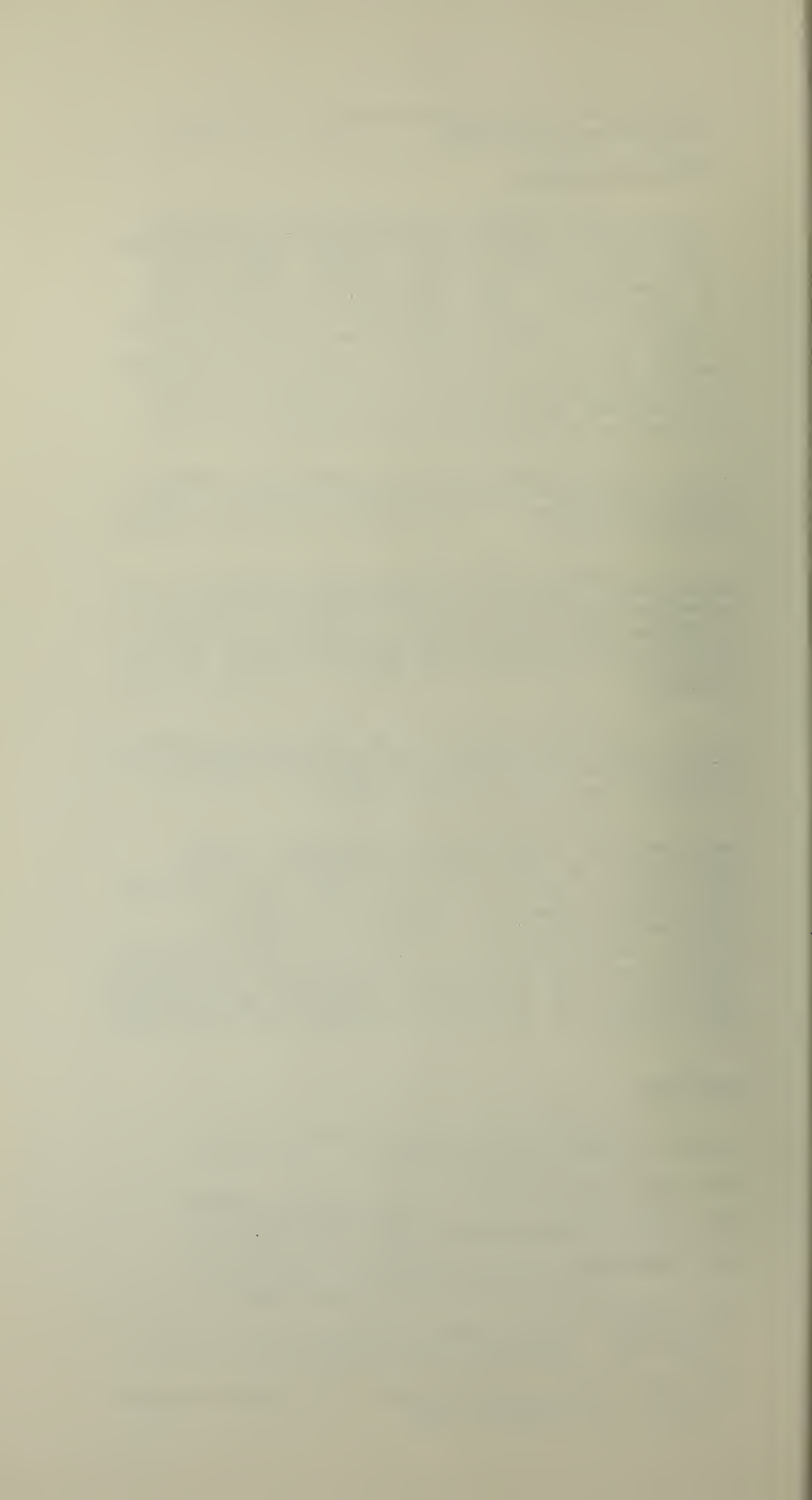
Transport

The transport used in the Department during the year was as follows:-

- One 1937 two ton Bedford with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.
- One 1940 two ton Bedford with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.
- One 1943 Karrier Bantam with 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.

Four street orderly trucks, withdrawn from service July 1947. (retained for emergency use)

One hired horse, used with pan cart, withdrawn from service 11th February 1948.



One Lewin Sprinkler Sweeper Collector, put into service 1st July 1947.

One Karrier Yorkshire Gully Emptier, put into service 11th February, 1948.

Two trailers used for salvage work.

During the year an order was placed for the delivery of a further Karrier Bantam with a 7 cu. yd. refuse collection body.

Consideration was given to the provision of proper garage accommodation for these vehicles as for some time most of them had been standing in the open. Instructions were given for the dismantling and disposal of the refuse destructor plant and the conversion of the buildings in which it was formerly housed for use as garages. This work was carried out and accommodation provided for four of the vehicles, the remainder of the buildings are required for the storage of salvaged materials. One vehicle is garaged at the rear of Horsforth Hall and one vehicle still remains without cover.

It is to be hoped that the Council will proceed as rapidly as possible with their scheme for the formation of new garages and salvage depot on land at the rear of Horsforth Hall. This would considerably assist in the economic running of the Department.

Costs

Details are recorded of the work performed by each of the vehicles and the cost of labour, maintenance and replacements. The work done by the refuse collection vehicles was as follows.

Refuse Collection and Disposal Statistics of work performed and costs

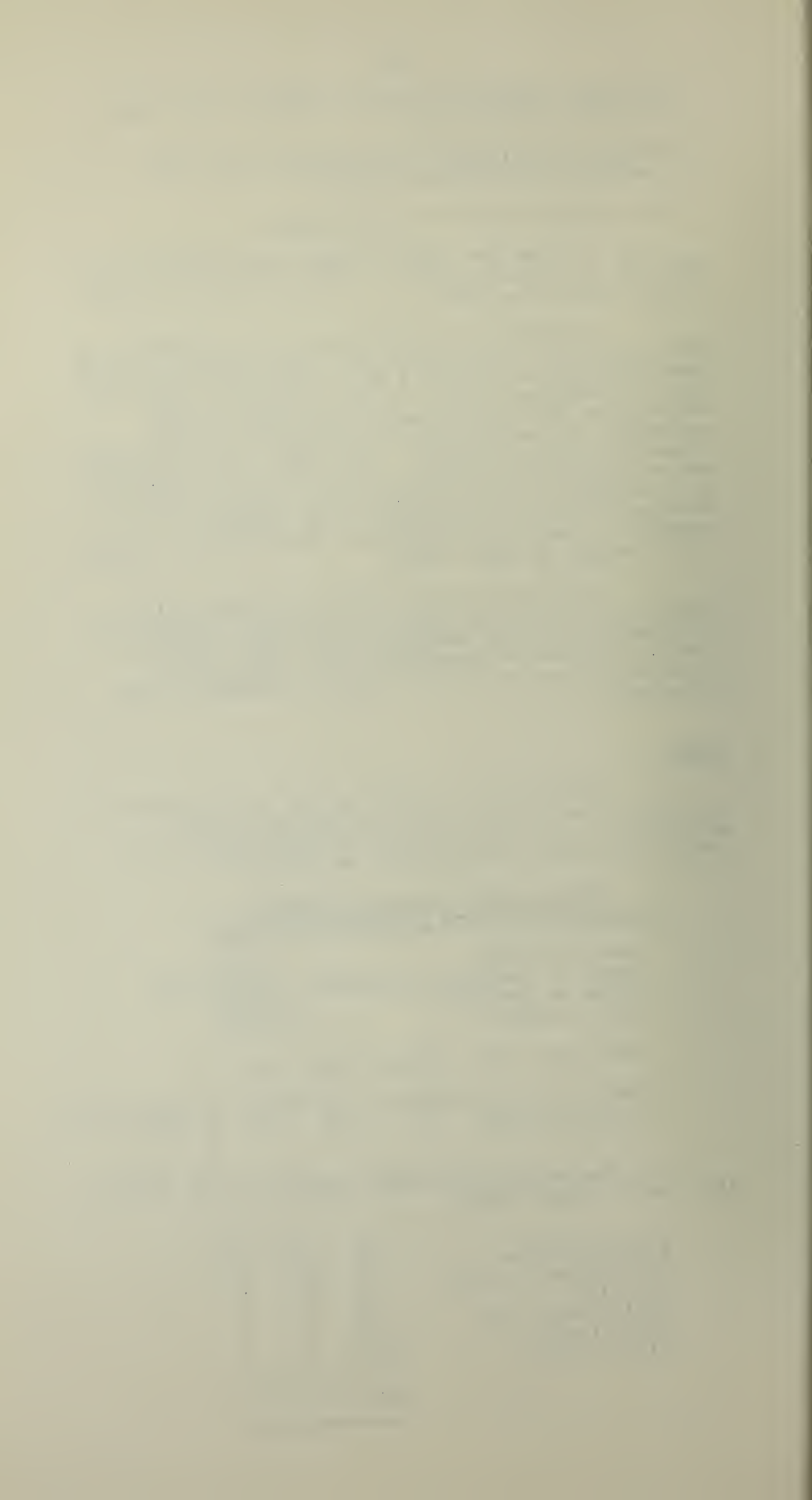
Loads collected	1,983
Weight of material collected	2,971 tons
Visits to premises	148,043
Miles covered	18,135

Total nett cost - £3,446. 17s. 7d.

Cost per ton (collection and disposal) £1. 3. 2½d.
Cost per visit " " " 5.6d.

The value of salvaged materials sold during the year is shown below.

	£	s.	d.
Ferrous Metals	21	14	9
Non-Ferrous Metals	2	18	6
Textiles	17	16	-
Bottles and Jars	42	6	3
Waste Paper	526	4	-
Kitchen Waste	196	16	9
	£807	16	3
	=====		



Owing to the change over which took place during the year straightforward costs are not available in respect of the street cleansing service, but the total cost of this work was £1,027. 18s. 4d.

The introduction of mechanical sweeping necessitated a very careful check as to the costs of this work, particularly as to the amount of work performed by each set of bristles to the brushes, and it has been found convenient to analyse the work done and costs over the life of each set of bristles. The table on page 20. covers the life of nine sets of bristles; the periods indicate the life of each set. During the first four periods the channel brush was changed at the same time as the remainder of the brushes but as from the 25th October two channel brushes were used to every one set of the other brushes; this accounts for the increased cost of re-bristling.

The total cost of street sweeping during the first 39 weeks the Mechanical Sweeper has been in operation, including manual sweeping performed during this period, is given below.

MECHANICAL SWEEPER-COLLECTOR

Total cost of operating mechanical sweeper-collector during the period 15th July 1947 to 15th April 1948. (Thirty-nine weeks)

Total hours worked.... 1,164 including $257\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. on Class III roads.

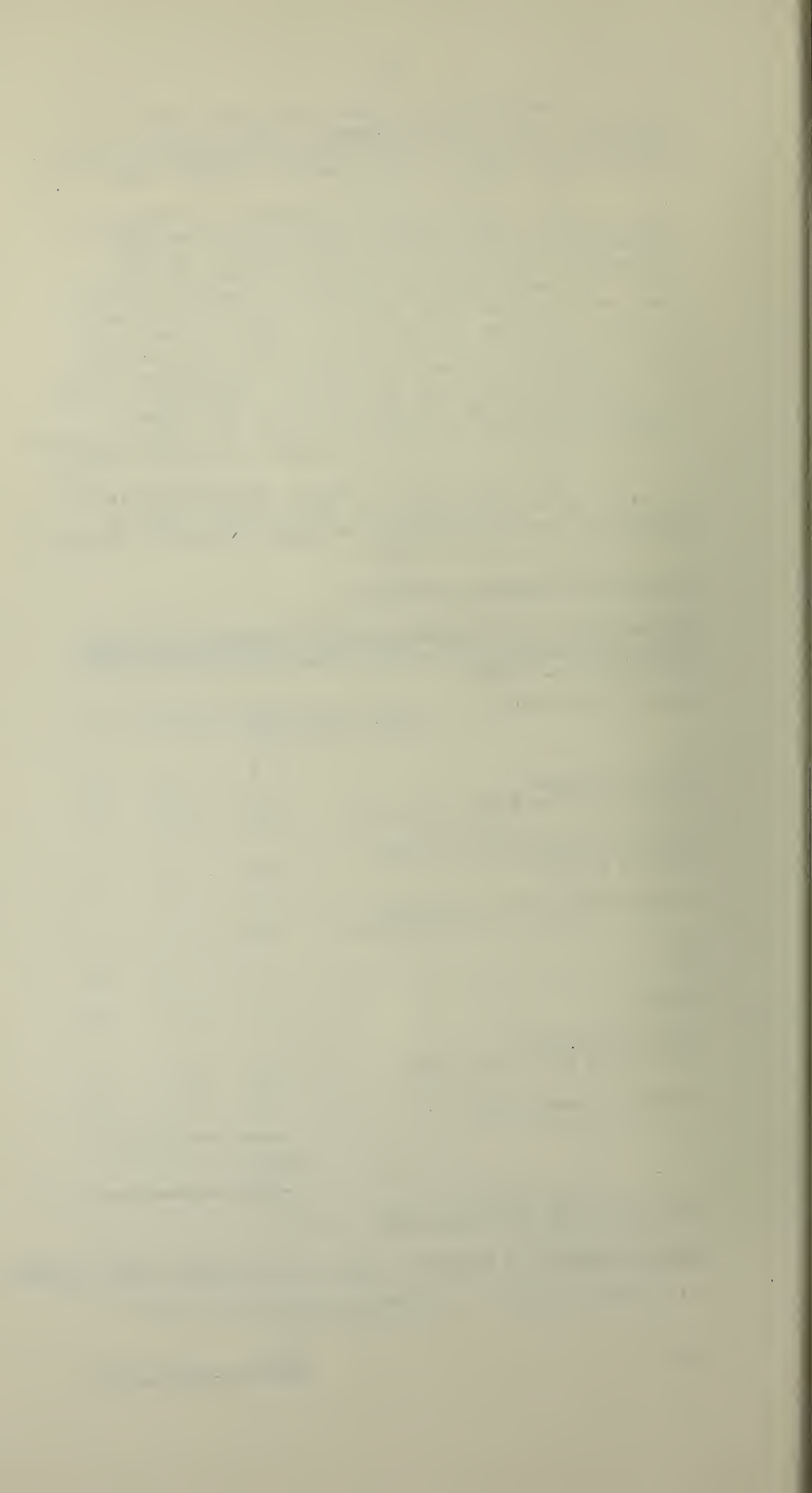
	£	s.	d.
Driver's wages (1,164 hrs. @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hr.)	128	10	6
Cost of re-bristling brushes during period	117	5	-
Petrol (510 galls. @ 1/10d. per gall.)	46	15	-
Oil		5	9
Repairs	7	11	4
Standing Charges (39 weeks @ £5. 12. 8d.)	219	14	-
Garage accommodation	2	5	6
	£522	7	1

TOTAL COST PER HOUR OPERATED:- 8.97/-

MANUAL SWEEPING - 15th July 1947 to 15th April 1948 (39 wks)

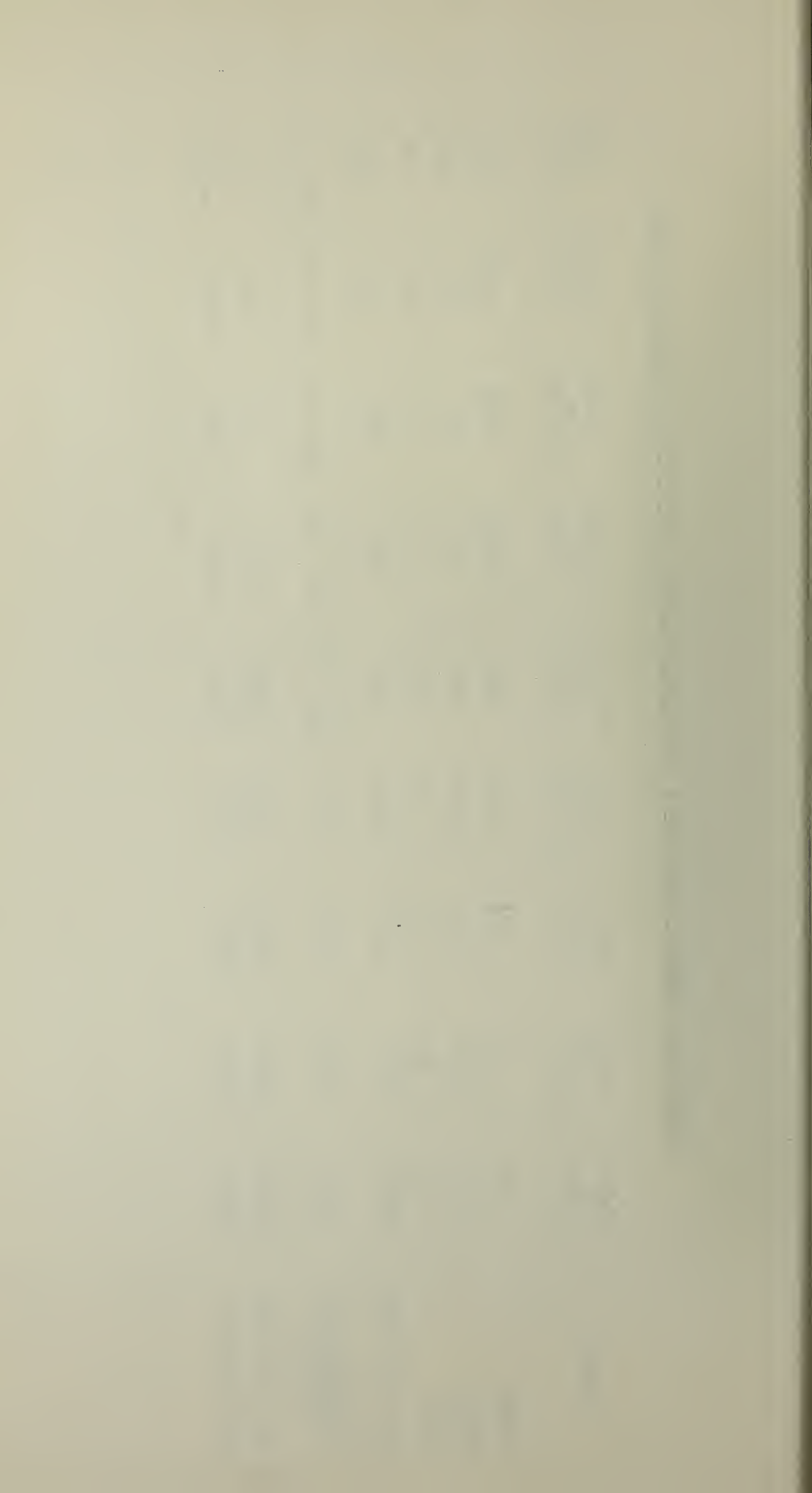
Total hours worked ... $2,046\frac{1}{2}$ including 137 hrs. on Class III roads.

Wages	£205.	5.	4.
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MECHANICAL SWEEPER COLLECTOR - Statistics of work performed and cost of brushes

PERIOD	15.7.47 to 31.7.47	1.8.47 to 28.8.47	29.8.47 to 26.9.47	27.9.47 to 24.10.47	25.10.47 to 12.12.47	13.12.47 to 8.1.48	9.1.48 to 30.1.48	31.1.48 to 5.3.48	6.3.48 to 15.4.48
HOURS	56	92	120½	184	256	100½	127½	111½	116
MILES	140	226	284	344	529	243	306	256	235
TONS	45	67	87	97	125	60	56	50	62
TONS PER MILE	.320	.290	.306	.282	.236	.245	.183	.195	.264
COST OF RE-BRISTLING BRUSHES	£12	£12	£12	£12	£13.17.0.	£13.17.0.	£13.17.0.	£13.17.0.	£13.17.0.
COST PER MILE	1.71/-	1.06/-	.84/-	.72/-	.52/-	1.14/-	.905/-	1.08/-	1.17/-
COST PER TON	5.33/-	3.58/-	2.75/-	2.47/-	2.21/-	4.61/-	4.94/-	5.54/-	4.46/-



Public Conveniences

I have again to draw your attention to the most unsatisfactory state of the public conveniences in the district and of their serious inadequacy. As I have stated before, the provision of facilities at Woodside and New Road Side is urgently necessary and the provision of improved facilities at Town Street is also a matter which should be given urgent attention. The existing convenience at The Green had certain repairs done to it during the year but with the restricted nature of the site and its close proximity to other buildings, it remains unsatisfactory. The conveniences at the King George Playing Field, Brownberrie Lane, and at the junction of Hawksworth Road and New Road Side, require renewal.

Any conveniences provided either on new sites or in substitution for existing facilities should be provided with means of personal washing.

NUISANCES

Much of what I said last year under this heading has also obtained during 1947. Considerable delay is still experienced in dealing with many matters which require attention, and lack of staff and the requirements of extraneous duties such as building licensing, have all played their part. Much of this work has been done by unrecorded informal contacts, and the work which has been recorded is summarised as follows:-

<u>Nuisances found during the year</u>		<u>Nuisances</u> <u>abated</u>
Defective and insufficient dust bins.	325	300
" roofs	6	5
" drains	10	8
" water closets	7	7
" eavesgutters	3	3
" sink waste pipes	4	4
" plasterwork	3	2
" stone floors	1	-
" lavatory basins	1	1
" water services	19	19
" cesspools	1	1
" soil pipes, vent shafts, fallpipes.	3	3
" chimney flashings	1	1
" pointing	1	1
Disinfection required	36	36
Disinfestation required	11	11
Blocked drains, water closets and gullies	81	81
Mouse infestations	2	2
Rat infestations	18	18
Cellar flooding	10	10
Dampness	7	4
Keeping of animals	1	1
Blocked sink waste pipes	2	2
Nuisance from domestic smoke	2	2
Mis-use of water closets	1	1
Accumulation of manure	1	1
Dirty and verminous dwelling houses	7	7
Miscellaneous	3	3
Leakage of coal gas into drains	5	5
	<u>579</u>	<u>545</u>

The number of visits made to premises in connection with the various types of nuisances are summarised as follows:-

Dust bins	682
Disinfection	42
Defective drains	24
Blocked drains	98
Disinfestation	78
Rat infestations	97
Cellar flooding	45
Housing defects	187
Keeping of animals	19
Mouse infestations	6
Miscellaneous	15
Testing of new drains	63
Tracing of existing drains	6
Dirty premises	14
Mis-use of water closets	4
Accumulations	12

1,392

Action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances was as follows:-

Informal Notices served	188
Informal Notices complied with	163
Statutory Notices served	1
Statutory Notices complied with	1
Legal proceedings	Nil

CONCLUSION

The writing of this report presents an opportunity of recording my appreciation of the continued support of the Council and for their ready assistance in dealing with the many difficulties which have arisen during the year.

It is only with the continued loyalty and support of my staff that it has been possible to achieve the results set out in the report, and I would record my thanks to them for their help at all times. Thanks are also due to the other Officers of the Council whose co-operation is always so readily available.

Yours faithfully,

E. M. BIRTWISLE.

Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

